

**DRAFT**

**Low-Income Energy Advisory Board Meeting**

**Wednesday, November 14, 2007**

**Legislative Office Building  
Room 1A  
Hartford, CT 06120**

**10:00 a.m. – Noon**

- I. Welcome
- II. Approval of October's Minutes
- III. Chairman's Report
- IV. Subcommittee Recommendations  
Funding Needs and Sources
- V. DSS Report  
Update on Current Energy Programs
- VI. Public Comments
- VII. Next Meeting – December 12 –LOB Room 2B (10:00 a.m. – noon)

## Low-Income Energy Advisory Board Meeting

Wednesday, October 10, 2007

Legislative Office Building Room 1B  
Hartford, CT

Attendees: Claudette Beaulieu, Shirley Bergert, Marilyn Hayes for John Betkoski, Laura Gonzalez, David Thomas, Paula Claydon, Tom Murphy for Cheryl Duey, Marla Hinz, Joanne Balaschak for James Gatling, James McNally, Lindsay Parke, Ray Wilson, Walter Wisnefsky, Patricia Wrice,

| Agenda Item                            | Action  |
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| Welcome                                | The meeting was convened at 1:35 p.m.<br>The Chair acknowledged the passing of Lillian Brown- former Board member.<br>The Chair noted that Cheryl Duey will serve as Tim Clark's replacement on the board. Tom Murphy attended the meeting on behalf of Cheryl. |
| Approval of August Minutes             | Minutes were modified to correct LIEAP to LIHEAP under agenda item titled LIHEAP Block Grant 2007-2008. Motion to approve minutes was made by Shirley Bergert and seconded by Patricia Wrice.   |
| Chairman's Report                      |   |
| LIEAB Web Page                         | A link to the LIEAB webpage is available on the OPM website under the heading of Boards and Commissions. The site will be updated monthly.  |
| 2007-2008 LIHEAP Block Grant/CEAP Plan | The Chair provided testimony at the legislative hearing on the LIHEAP Block Grant. The Chair noted concerns that OPM and DSS did not include recommendations made by the Board into the plan particularly, the early intake process.                            |
| Funding Request to DPUC                | The Chair stated that the letter requesting funds under the SBC to support LIEAB activities has been submitted to DPUC and is under review. Marilyn Hayes will keep the Board informed on the status of the request.  |
| Legislative Proposals                  | Timeframes for submission of recommendations and proposal remains unchanged: October 2007 finalize recommendations, October – November 2007-Present recommendations to legislative  |

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|                              | committee chairs, and December 2007-Develop legislative proposals.  |
| Subcommittee Recommendations | <p>Funding Resources Subcommittee recommendations tabled until November's meeting.</p> <p>Communication and Coordination Subcommittee presented its recommendation to the Board.</p> <p><u>Recommendations:</u><br/> Develop an interchange system between agencies and utility companies for energy assistance transactions.<br/> Develop an automated communication system between the community action agencies and deliverable fuel vendors.</p> <p>Following a brief discussion the Board adopted the recommendations with the stipulation that the reference to agencies must specifically identify community action agencies.</p>  |
| DSS Report                   | <p>Final 2007 Report, (CEAP, SAFA, CHAP) a total of 97,791 applications taken; 84,758 eligible; 13,033 denied and 0 pending certification. Total Crisis Assistance -23,891 and Safety Net Assistance- 8,585.Total benefit expenditures reflect \$54,893,161.</p> <p>CEAP Early Intake – intake process began between September 10 and September 17, 2007. As of 10/9/07 a total of 10,452 applications taken, 5,983 approved, 2,034 denied, 2,435 pending and funds committed is \$3,190,490. DSS is working to clarify the difference between denied and pending status.</p> <p>DSS discussed the public hearing on the CEAP and issues regarding energy assistance to illegal immigrants. DSS is requesting that applicants provide social security information from applicants as a fraud prevention measure.</p> <p>No action was taken on the plan. Legislature held another information session on the CEAP with no action. If the legislature does not act by October 19, the plan goes into effect without the amended language.</p> <p>Members recommended that DSS submit the</p> |

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|              | <p>CEAP and all amendments within a timeframe that will allow the Board to comment prior to submission to the legislature.</p> <p>After a brief discussion members asked DSS to provide details on the process and procedures that the CAAs' will follow regarding identification of the citizenship.</p> <p>Shirley Bergert will forward a summary document on the definition of non-qualified aliens.</p> <p>Members discussed the possibility of oil vendors declining to participate in this years' program due to a new method of payment. They include: (1) New Haven Harbor average plus 31 cents and (2) purchase at retail price with a discount of 35 cents.</p> |
| Next Meeting | <p>The next meeting will be held on November 14 at 10:00 a.m. at the LOB.</p> <p>The meeting was adjourned at 3:15 p.m.</p>  |