

Deena Frankel

From: Richard Suitor [rsuitor@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 19, 2009 5:21 PM
To: Deena Frankel; Kim Pritchard
Cc: David Mullett
Subject: Thoughts on the public sector

Briefly, I suggest that we go to the PSB and ask them to reformulate the Public Sector.

Instead of having 3 members, I suggest it have many.

I suggest it operate similarly to the Muni sector:

1. That there be a quorum, 3, say, or whatever number seems to be appropriate.
2. That the various members be encouraged to use the alternate mechanism.
 - a. Having a quorum helps encourage this. If there aren't formally (in person or by alternate) enough members present, the sector loses its vote. (Alternatively, if it sinks, and Jenny is still the only attendee, she'll lose her vote. We can go back in that case, but I hardly see the point. The VSPC is not worth the resources we put into it unless we get more public participation.)
 - b. If there is a working alternate system, it encourages communication among the public members. That's what we want.
 - c. If there are several members, the PSB can approach smaller groups that seem interested. A group does not have to commit to attending every time - they can *all* give Jenny their alternate if they want - but we'll have people to talk to, and when a project might affect a particular group, it can show up and vote and speak for itself. As you have perhaps noticed, the munis have been good and getting better about giving alternates, but they have not been all going to one person.

So we could have VPIRG *and* CLF still remain as members, and perhaps draft LWV and the Sierra club and Nancy Notterman's energy group, too.

And say to them, OK, you don't have to go to every meeting. BUT:

- a. If you're not going, give your alternate to someone who is. And get a report back.
- b. If what we're doing isn't clear, yell until we make it so. We're going to have to do that at permit and vote time, anyway.
- c. ??? there's more, but my mind has shut down.

I suppose we'll have to soft-pedal the fact that there hasn't been a formal vote since the procedures defining a formal vote were adopted.

There will be, some day, on some project.

Richard