

Energy and Climate Action Committee Meeting

Minutes – 07/12/2022

Virtual Meeting

Meeting Start: 7:03pm

Committee Members Present: Leslie Cerier, Michael DeChiara, Miriam DeFant, Gail Fleischaker, Nate Heard, and Zoe Weizenbaum

Committee Members Absent: Graeme Sephton

Public: Henry Geddes

Public comments

Henry Geddes delivered comments on the importance of effective science communications, particularly in the work of the committee. He challenged the committee to consider where received concepts about sustainability, ecology, and what is “green” come from. Henry Geddes will present on sustainability communications at a future meeting.

Minutes

The minutes from the committee’s May 31 meeting will be discussed at a future meeting. Leslie moved to open discussion of the minutes for the committee’s June 21 meeting. Michael seconded to approve.

The June 21 minutes were approved with the votes as follows: Gail, Aye; Leslie, Aye; Michael, Aye; Miriam, Aye; Nate, Aye; Zoe, Aye.

National Grid audit

A vendor will visit all five of the town’s municipal buildings for a preliminary audit. There will be a follow up visit where they will collect additional information. A final report will be issued and include recommendations. Becky Torres is the primary vendor point of contact.

Household Energy Survey

Many thanks were given.

Community choice aggregation (CCA)

Select Board expressed interest in discussing CCA at a July 19 meeting. Nate and Michael committed to give a presentation and answer questions.

Community Solar

The committee is considering where community solar could go and what factors would recommend one site over another.

Hazard mitigation and municipal vulnerability spreadsheet

Building on the committee's review of the Municipal Vulnerability and Hazard Mitigation Plan reports, the committee worked to identify opportunities to liaise with other boards and committees to forward priorities identified in the reports. Michael will liaise with the Planning Board, Miriam will liaise with the Conservation Committee, Nate will liaise with School Board. Report recommendations are listed in a spreadsheet that committee members can use to volunteer for liaison roles with other town entities. The spreadsheet will be distributed to all committee members to provide an opportunity to align each task to a liaison.

ARPA recommendations

The Select Board has not discussed ECAC ARPA recommendations because there were no dollar amounts assigned to the recommendation. The committee discussed priorities for ARPA fund proposals and how to develop a small set of concrete projects.

The Committee anticipates continuing to meet every three weeks.

Motion to Adjourn: Miriam moved to adjourn the meeting. Gail, Aye; Leslie, Aye; Michael, Aye; Miriam, Aye; Nate, Aye; Zoe, Aye.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:45pm