

Energy Climate Action Committee Meeting
Minutes – 11/08/2022
Virtual Meeting

Meeting Start: 7:03pm

Members Present: Michael DeChiara, Miriam DeFant, Leslie Cerier, Gail Fleischaker, Nate Heard, Graeme Sephton, Zoe Weizenbaum.

Members Absent: none

Guests: Marianne Connor, Mary Jo Johnson, Mary Lou Conca

Public Comment

Mary Jo Johnson reported on benefits of beavers from a climate resilience perspective. Mary Lou Conca backed up Mary Joe's comments and expressed concern about pellet gun shooting. Michael proposed reserving beaver conversation as an agenda item for next meeting. Miriam suggested another public meeting regarding this issue as well as another assessment from an expert. She pointed to the need of proper procedure for tackling these issues. Michael suggested joint meeting between relevant players (ECAC, Select Board, Highway Dept., Board of Health, etc.) to make a coordinated effort. Miriam would like to include Wendell in the conversation.

Updates

Michael: We received National Grid fleet advisory services email. We qualify with 12 town vehicles. This is being managed by the town administrator. National Grid will make recommendations.

Michael: Amherst ECAC is having series of educational sessions. Tomorrow 11/9 is on heat pumps.

Discussed Consideration of CCA Forum

We still don't have a date for special town meeting. Leslie wants to educate public about all options. Nate agreed to give initial presentation on CCA and estimated needing 20 minutes to present. Michael suggested asking for questions about CCA in advance of meeting.

Motion: Miriam moved to schedule CCA forum for December 7th at 7pm. Gail-second.

Vote: Miriam-Aye, Leslie-Nay, Gail-Aye, Zoe-Aye, Graeme-Aye, Nate-Aye, Michael-Aye.

Gail volunteered to manage the whiteboard during the CCA zoom meeting. Graham volunteered to field the QandA. Gail offered to write blurb for Town Announce; Michael will post to ECricket/Nextdoor; Miriam and Michael agreed to read and offer suggestions.

Previously Discussed Committee Initiatives

Community Solar:

Marianne expressed concern that CCA is creating demand for solar farms that result in deforestation and environmental damage. She presented on financing options for community led, community owned solar. Gail suggested investigating commercial rooftops for solar generation sited out of town.

Regenerative Design Group:

Zoe plans to invite Eric Giordano of Regenerative Design Group to present at next meeting on a potential collaboration of his group and ECAC.

**Motion to Adjourn: Nate moves to adjourn. Vote: Leslie- Aye, Gail- Aye, Miriam- Aye,
Zoe- Aye, Graeme-Aye. Nate-Aye**
Meeting Close: 8:54pm

Respectfully submitted by Zoe Weizenbaum.