



## CLIMATE ACTION COMMITTEE

TOWN HALL • 525 WASHINGTON STREET • WELLESLEY, MA 02482-5992

Sustainability Director: Marybeth Martello

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Laura Olton, Chair  
Susan Morris, Vice Chair  
Cynthia Mahr  
Ellen Korpi  
Martha Collins  
Fred Bunger  
Lise Olney

### CAC Meeting

January 14, 2022

Remote Zoom Meeting

### Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 8:30am by Laura Olton. Present were Climate Action Committee (CAC) members: Laura Olton (CAC Chair), Sue Morris (Vice Chair), Ellen Korpi, Lise Olney, Martha Collins, and Fred Bunger. Also attending were Marybeth Martello (Sustainability Director), Janet Mosley (CAC Analyst), Doug Smith (Advisory Committee Liaison), Dave Hickey (DPW – Town Engineer), George Saraceno (DPW – Senior Civil Engineer), Emily Scerbo (DPW Consultant from Tighe & Bond), Mary Gard, and Phyllis Theerman. Absent: Cindy Mahr.

**Citizens' Speak** – None

### **Minutes**

Martha Collins moved to approve the CAC's meeting minutes from November 10, December 3, and December 9. Ellen Korpi seconded the motion *and the Committee voted to approve the November 10, December 3, and December 9 meeting minutes.*

### **Department of Public Works Stormwater Utility Presentation**

Town Engineer Dave Hickey shared a presentation on the Department of Public Works' (DPW) Stormwater Management Program (SMP). Wellesley has four major watersheds that drain to the Charles River. The MS4 permit (effective 2018) requires reductions in the amount of phosphorus in the Charles River. The DPW is focusing on improving both the quality and quantity of storm water released into the Charles River. Emily Scerbo of Tighe and Bond discussed a Stormwater Enterprise Fund (SEF). There are 1,800 SEFs in the United States as of 2020. DPW aims to implement this SEF in FY23.

### **Climate Action Plan Update**

Marybeth led discussion on the following CAP items:

- **USDN Nexus Framework on Equity:** Marybeth described an opportunity for Wellesley to participate in a pilot program led by the Urban Sustainability Director Network (USDN). This program would provide technical support, funding, and advice on equity and climate. After

discussion the CAC recommended the Town's Diversity Equity and Inclusion Task Force consider the USDN program.

- **CAP Launch Timeline:** Marybeth plans to make the main CAP report and one appendix public soon. An announcement of the CAP launch will appear prominently on the front page of the Wellesley website with a link to the CAP main report. There will also be a press release to get the CAP out through as many channels as possible.
- **Implementation Blueprints:** Marybeth requested that each CAP pathway working group draft two implementation blueprints for sharing at the February CAC meeting. The goal is to complete these implementation blueprints in February.

### **FY 2023 CAC Budget Update**

Marybeth directed committee members and the public to her January 7 presentation to the Select Board to hear the CAC's budget rationale and Select Board questions.

### **Proposed State Legislation H.4307**

Laura described legislation H.4307 that Representative Peisch and Senator Creem put forward proposing to mandate the Division of Energy Resources (DOER) to provide funding for Municipal Light Plants (MLPs) to meet Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions reduction goals. The CAC submitted written testimony to the state legislature in support of H.4307 on January 11.

### **CAC Process for providing testimony and letters in support of legislation and other initiatives**

Laura deferred this topic for discussion at the next meeting.

### **Questions Regarding Project Updates**

Susan Morris inquired about the status of Dana Hall's project to redo the upper school building.

Lise noted a Multi-town Gas Leaks Initiative panel discussion about hydrogen, a potential future fuel source, on February 1 at 1 p.m.

Laura mentioned the CAC will put together a letter supporting sustainability-related zoning amendments put forward by the Planning Department.

Fred Bunger motioned to adjourn the meeting at 10 a.m., seconded by Martha Collins, *and the Committee voted to adjourn.*