

TOWN OF WELLESLEY



MASSACHUSETTS

CLIMATE ACTION COMMITTEE

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Sustainability Director: Marybeth Martello

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Laura Olton, Chair

Susan Morris, Vice Chair

Cynthia Mahr

Ellen Korpi

Martha Collins

Fred Bungler

Lise Olney

Climate Action Committee Meeting

June 30, 2022

Remote Zoom Meeting

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Sue Morris. Present were Climate Action Committee (CAC) members: Laura Olton (CAC Chair), Sue Morris (CAC Vice Chair), Lise Olney, Martha Collins, Fred Bungler, and Ellen Korpi. Also present were Marybeth Martello (Sustainability Director), Doug Smith (Advisory Liaison), Catharine Mirick, Mary Gard, Bonnie Roalson, and Peter Litman. Absent: Cynthia Mahr.

Citizen's Speak: None

Announcements

Laura introduced Catherine Mirick who will be the new CAC member appointed by the School Committee as of July 1.

Minutes: None

Discussion of draft letter to Representative Alice Peisch and Legislative Leadership about MA climate bills

The committee discussed the letter drafted by Lise Olney with edits from Laura Olton highlighting the sections of state climate bills H.4524 and S.2842 that would be key to supporting Wellesley's Climate Action Plan. A few minor changes were suggested. Ellen moved to approve the letter with small editorial changes to be made by Laura and Marybeth. The motion was seconded by Martha Collins, and *the committee voted to approve the letter to Rep. Peisch and other Legislative leaders.*

Interactions with Wellesley Public Schools

Catherine Mirick proposed scheduling a meeting including herself, WPS principals, Marybeth and a CAC member during the summer in order to bring forward ideas where climate action can fit into the school

day and get feedback from the principals. Marybeth noted the meeting should also include Julie Boehm given her plan to focus the WPS STEAM month of October on sustainability. Other ideas discussed:

- Review each school's energy usage with principals and discuss potential occupant behavior programs
- Invite high school Climate Action Club members to the Climate Action Committee meeting or find another time to meet with them to improve communication and collaboration
- Consider ways to include a footnote showing the cost of each school's energy use during the budget process to increase the motivation of school administrators to prioritize energy conservation.

Plans for July Jubilation

Marybeth requested volunteers to staff a CAC table for July Jubilation.

Plans for Green Collaborative

Grow Green Collaborative and work to develop those people into ambassadors for climate action by forwarding CAC messaging to their groups. CAC discussed some additional service groups that could help spread CAC messaging.

Additional Business

Ellen shared that the Municipal Light Board approved a new contract with Center for EcoTechnology to perform decarbonization audits instead of energy audits, which provides more holistic recommendations to improve a household's sustainability. MLP heat pump incentives were also raised from \$5,000 to \$10,000.

Lise Olney highlighted the recent study that gas stoves release toxins into our homes and connecting the switch to induction ovens with the health benefits. Marybeth recently reached out to the Health Department to brainstorm areas for collaboration.

Lise also noted that the Department of Energy Resources just released a draft of the updated stretch code and opt-in specialized stretch code. CAC members agreed to meet in late July in order to provide comments to DOER on the draft code by August 12.

Adjourn

Martha Collins moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 A.M., seconded by Fred Bunger, *and the Committee voted to adjourn.*