

TOWN OF WELLESLEY



MASSACHUSETTS

CLIMATE ACTION COMMITTEE

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

Sustainability Director: Marybeth Martello

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CAC Analyst: Janet Mosley

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Laura Olton, Chair

Susan Morris, Vice Chair

Catherine Mirick

Ellen Korpi

Martha Collins

Fred Bungler

Lise Olney

Climate Action Committee Meeting

July 29, 2022

Remote Zoom Meeting

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 11:32 a.m. by Laura Olton. Present were Climate Action Committee (CAC) members: Laura Olton (CAC Chair), Sue Morris (CAC Vice Chair), Lise Olney, Martha Collins, Catherine Mirick, and Fred Bungler. Also present were Marybeth Martello (Sustainability Director), Doug Smith (Advisory Liaison), Lisa Wolf, Bonnie Roalson, and Peter Litman. Absent: Ellen Korpi.

Citizen's Speak: None

Minutes: Martha Collins moved to approve the meeting minutes from May 27, June 16, and June 30 as written, seconded by Sue Morris, *and the Committee voted to approve the amended May 27, June 16, and June 30 meeting minutes.*

CAC Leadership

Laura Olton nominated Sue Morris to be CAC chair. Lise Olney seconded the nomination, *and the Committee voted to appoint Susan Morris as CAC chair.* Sue moved to nominate Laura as vice chair, seconded by Martha second, *and the Committee voted to appoint Laura Olton as CAC vice chair.*

Discussion of comments to DOER on proposed building energy code

The CAC discussed the comments responding to DOER's proposed updated stretch and opt-in specialized building energy code drafted by Marybeth and Fred Bungler. The draft is largely based on recommendations from the Massachusetts Net Zero Buildings Coalition. The CAC suggested some format changes and that the comments should be shared with the Building Department and Planning Department. Janet Mosley shared feedback from Wellesley Building Inspector Michael Grant that DOER should require contractors to receive more training on the energy code, and CAC members indicated interest in including this comment in the letter to DOER. Martha moved to approve the comments on the proposed building energy code with any necessary amendments made by Lise, Fred, Marybeth, and

Janet. Laura seconded the motion, and *the Committee voted to approve the comments to DOER with amendments made by Lise, Fred, Marybeth, and Janet.*

Legislative updates

The state legislature passed bill H.5060 with various provisions to help the state meet its GHG reduction goals. Governor Baker has until July 31 to sign or send back to the legislature with amendments. CAC members determined to hold off on further advocacy for the bill given the uncertainty around the Governor's response.

DOER Climate Leaders Program

DOER has requested feedback on a proposed Climate Leaders Program that would provide funding to municipalities to implement climate action. Comments are due by August 5. CAC members expressed support for the program's design and intent, with a question about provisions for communities with municipal light plants. Martha moved to appoint Marybeth, Laura, and Janet to write comments to DOER on the proposed Climate Leaders Program, seconded by Lise, *and the Committee voted to appoint Marybeth, Laura, and Janet to write comments to DOER on the proposed Climate Leaders Program.*

Update on CAC municipal and community outreach

- Marybeth noted that updates regarding municipal and community outreach efforts are outlined in project updates.
- The CAC discussed developing a strategy for outreach to Town Meeting members.
- Another EV showcase is tentatively planned for September.

Additional Business

- Massachusetts Attorney General approved the remaining bylaw changes from 2022 Annual Town Meeting, including the amendment to allow heat pumps in setback areas.
- Catherine Mirick informed the CAC about ongoing discussions with the Permanent Building Committee and National Grid about potential grants totaling \$1.493 million for the new Hunnewell and Hardy Schools and the Town Hall interior renovation if a natural gas connection is maintained. The CAC felt National Grid needed to provide additional information on the requirements for these grants before the committee could fully discuss this option.
- As of July 1, Marybeth reports to Meghan Jop, Executive Director of General Government Services
- Lise Olney was appointed as the Select Board chair and reappointed to the CAC on July 27.
- The next CAC meeting is scheduled for September 9 at 8:30 a.m.

Adjourn

Martha Collins moved to adjourn the meeting at 1 p.m., seconded by Laura Olton, *and the Committee voted to adjourn.*