

## **Maynard Sustainability Committee Minutes**

24 Feb 2022, 7PM, via zoom

Members present: Zana Cranmer, Orian Greene, Meg Sobkovicz-Kline, Sallie Warner, Kate Wheeler, Lisa Vernegaard, (Absent: Priscilla Ryder)

And Selectboard Liaison: Jeff Swanberg; Town Administrator: Greg Johnson

Public: Ken Neuhauser, Lois Hutchings, Roger Stillwater, Sarah Measures, Lee Eyler

First meeting of the new Sustainability Committee called to order 7:05PM by temporary Chair and SelectBoard liaison Jeff Swanberg.

**Officers.** Priscilla Ryder had previously indicated willingness to serve as Chair, preferring to be a Co-Chair. She is employed at Marlborough's Sustainability Agent as well as longterm Conservation Agent, and has experience with Marlborough's transition efforts. LV: moved Ryder's appointment; KW: seconded; vote was unanimous 6/0.

After appealing for a Co-Chair volunteer, JS continued as temporary Chair. KW volunteered to take notes.

**Meeting schedule.** After discussion, the Committee determined that the second Tuesday of the month at 7pm would be the regular meeting schedule.

**Presentation of town committee responsibilities.** JS and Greg Johnson reprised responsibilities under Open Meeting Law etc., encouraged questions and were available to clarify anything going forward, recommended coordinating contact with town staff for efficiency and courtesy, etc. GJ invited Committee members to apply for a town of Maynard email address, suggested blind copying Committee emails to prevent encouraging discussion, OML covers texts, series emails etc. Meeting postings and agendas must be done at least 24 hours before date, but Town Clerk deserves courtesy of additional time to post. Currently any info/resources the Committee wants to share with residents can be posted to the Committee webpage, via GJ for Dave Griffin, webmaster.

**Presentation of Town's sustainability efforts, climate action goals in current planning documents, and current municipal resources and alliances:** JS presented on the Town's current actions to address climate goals, and pulling out Master Plan and other municipal plan's climate related goals, as well as summarizing relevant alliances with local and regional entities addressing climate change. Committee was also informed that Town did not receive the Green Communities Municipal Vulnerability Program climate action grant it applied for but is receiving a hazard mitigation plan grant through FEMA. Also, some of the obsolete central Basin parking lot EV charging stations are being replaced, but not yet enabled.

Committee members were invited to add climate action concerns to the preliminary list. KW and LV indicated the need for land protection and importance of natural resource protection in carbon sequestration.

MS-K volunteered to lead a working group on Waste Recycling and Composting. From the public KN offered to be the Committee's liaison to municipal building projects to encourage efficiency measures. Further discussion and all working group appointments held for next meeting.

**Presentation of GreenMaynard's citizen's petition to declare a climate emergency and urge municipal action.** OG invited SM to speak for GreenMaynard. JS indicated that a Selectboard member had expressed a desire to hold this petition for Fall Town Meeting, and that GreenMaynard give time for the Sustainability Committee. After discussion (SelectBoard's timing concerns, language of petition, does petition support the Town and Committee's work for climate action) KW moved that the Committee support GreenMaynard's citizen's petition to declare a climate emergency; LV seconded; vote was unanimous 6/0.

**Next meeting:** 8 March 2022 at 7PM, via zoom.

**Meeting adjourned:** KW moved; SW seconded; 6/0. 8:35PM