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By James Alexander at 9:31 am, May 24, 2023

Maynard Sustainability Committee

Minutes, 3 April 2023, 7 PM, in person (hybrid meeting)

Members present in person: Zana Cranmer, Orian Greene, Priscilla Ryder (co-chair), Meg Sobkowicz Kline, Sally Warner (notetaker), Kate Wheeler (co-chair)

Members absent: Lisa Vernegaard,

Others present: Julie Love Gagen (in person), Justine St. John, SelectBoard (on zoom)

- I. **Meeting called to order** at 7:06 PM
- II. **Minutes approved** from February meeting; KW moves, MSK seconds, 6-0 approve
- III. **Upcoming meeting dates:** May 1 and June 5.
- IV. **Climate Action Plan** (ZC and JG presenting)
 - a. Consulted with Jen Haugh about costs/feasibility of getting a professional organization to write our CAP
 - b. JG spoke with Lexington and Cohasset about their CAPs
 - c. MVP Action Grant that was recently announced would be the best fit for us and the timing works well for us
 - i. Submission deadline is May 5
 - d. JG has gotten a Maynard high school senior as an intern to work on the CAP
 - e. Estimated cost is about \$80k to make sure that we do due diligence on community engagement in addition to writing the CAP
 - f. Timeline: total time will be approximately a year
 - i. By May 5 – submit MVP Action Grant
 - ii. Once grant is awarded (likely in August) – put out RFP to hire an outside consultant
- V. **Community Energy Aggregation** (SW presenting)
 - a. SW is meeting with Paul and Marlana from Mass PowerChoice on Wednesday to discuss the \$0.001/kWhr adder
 - b. Mass PowerChoice has our chosen names and it working on logo and website
 - c. SW has asked Tina Woolston to help with this project
- VI. **MSBA and Green Meadow school design**
 - a. Ken Neuhauser has access to the designs that have been recently released, but not publicly. He may be able to share these with members of our committee.

- VII. **High school solar project**
 - a. No major updates
 - b. PR is meeting with Justin tomorrow and will ask for an update

- VIII. **Waste Diversion** (OG and MSK presenting)
 - a. OG recently attended a meeting of the Waste Task Force
 - b. Still working on a survey to be sent to town residents
 - i. Want this to have a strong environmental statement
 - c. State's Zero-Waste guidelines are a *guide* not a *requirement*
 - d. Having residents choose a bin size is still considered 'pay as you throw' by the state

- IX. **Nature Based Solutions** (PR and KW presenting)
 - a. Tree Corps and Tree Committee received a grant to de-pave a parking area in the Summer St parking lot where native plants will be planted
 - b. MSK and SW can sit at a table representing the Maynard SustCom at the Earth Day Fair from 10 AM – 2 PM on Saturday, April 22 at the Library
 - i. We will join Zana's table (she will be showing En-ROADS)
 - ii. MSK will bring a list of our initiatives

- X. **Hazard Mitigation Plan Advisory Group** (PR presenting)
 - a. Good pre-cursor to the CAP
 - b. Survey

- XI. **Website** (SW presenting)
 - a. No updates at this time
 - b. KW has noticed that Future Green Meadow Build FAQs have been added to our page on the town's new website without our requesting

- XII. **Grants** (JG presenting)
 - a. EECBG – federal program through the IRA
 - i. General fund for communities with populations <35k
 - ii. MAPC did a webinar on it recently
 - iii. Funds projects that reduce emissions, increase efficiency, add green energy infrastructure, etc
 - iv. Could be used for environment/energy audits for our environmental justice community members
 - b. Environmental Justice Government to Government Program & Collaborative Problem-Solving Cooperative Agreement Program
 - i. Looking for collaborative projects such as one where we work with Green Maynard or the Council on Aging
 - c. Mass MVP program

- d. JG has made connections with Hudson's Sustainability Committee and they may be reaching out to us to talk about ways that we can build collaborations. Other towns to collaborate with include Acton, Sudbury and Concord.
- e. Mass EVIP
 - i. electrical vehicle charging stations could be fully paid for assuming we haven't maxed out our usage of this. Justin recently got a lot of EV stations installed so we're not sure if we've used our allotment.
- f. MassSave and Eversource
 - i. Net-zero planning for all of our municipal buildings including schools
 - ii. JG says we should definitely do this
 - iii. PR will reach out to Justin as a first step

XIII. Panel on resilient municipal builds (KW presenting)

- a. Scheduled for Wednesday, April 5 from 1:30-3 PM at the Library and on zoom (and recorded)
- b. Justine spoke up asking for more balance on the panel because she sees the panel as being all people representing the "green-side"
- c. KW said that the main goals are to share a path for designing and building an energy-efficient building, not to present this topic as a debate. Additionally, it won't be focused on the Green Meadow School, but more generally on the process of building future municipal buildings.
- d. ZC says that the conversation is meant to be a technologically-neutral
- e. PR says it's a discussion that will include the pit-falls and the big picture
- f. WAVM will hopefully be able to put the recording on their youtube so the recording can be accessed after the event

XIV. Communicating with staff boards and community groups: Nothing to present

XV. Messages from Town Hall & public since last meeting: None

XVI. Other business

- a. OG has drafted a statement about compost that will be put on the town's website (under waste and recycling). Justin is asking for the sus comm's approval of the statement with a formal letter.
- b. Collectively, we read through the statement and suggested a few edits.
- c. MSK moved to accept the edited version of the letter, ZC seconded. 6-0 in favor.
- d. PR and KW will write a short official letter to Justin saying that the sus comm approves the edited version of the letter.

XVII. Public Comment: No one present for public comment

XVIII. Adjourn at 8:22

- a. KW moves, OG seconds, 6-0 in favor