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By James Alexander at 4:32 pm, Oct 11, 2022

Maynard Sustainability Committee

Minutes, 15 August 2022, 7 PM, Hybrid

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

Members present on zoom: none

Members absent: none

Others present: Jeffrey Swanberg (liaison to the town's select board; in person), Ken Neuhauser (on zoom), Roger Stillwater (on zoom), Emma T-F (on zoom; from about 7:15 to 7:45),

- I. **Meeting called to order** at 7:10 PM (a little late due to room change and technical issues)
- II. **Minutes approved** for July 19 meeting; LV moves, KW seconds, 7-0 approve
- III. **Next meeting dates:** Monday, September 12, 2022 at 7 PM; October meeting tentatively set for Monday, October 17, 2022 at 7 PM.
- IV. **Format of future meetings:** Meetings will continue in a hybrid mode
- V. **Update: Climate survey** (ZC presenting):
 - a. Everyone sent ZC edits to the survey document, which have been incorporated. ZC suggests prioritizing simplicity, so she will break out cost questions into a separate section. A few other specific edits were discussed and added by ZC.
 - b. Potentially we need to add some security such as allowing people to only submit a response once per computer.
 - c. Distribution:
 - i. Start as soon as the survey is ready.
 - ii. Robo-calls from the town
 - iii. Newsletter from the town
 - iv. Facebook
 - v. High school
 - vi. Maynard Fest (October 1)
 - vii. Create a flyer with a QR code and post around town, around the mill, around the chamber of commerce
 - d. How many responses do we want to get:
 - i. 500 would be amazing, but it might be a stretch to get that many. 100 would provide enough responses for statistical significance.
 - e. End date:

- i. Plan to run for the whole month of September with it closing on October 8 (or so)
 - f. Workshops
 - i. One in October/November; one in January/February
 - ii. Goal: get more detail and input from stakeholders/residents/etc.
 - iii. End results: survey and workshop results will get put into town's climate action plan which we're aiming to finish by the spring.
 - g. Testing: ZC will create a finalized version, which she will email out of all of us. We should all test the Qualtrics survey by a week from today.
- VI. **Update: Community Choice Aggregation** (SW presenting)
- a. PR, JS, and SW met with Colonial Power in July 25 and with Peregrine Energy on July 28.
 - i. Both consultants would be good choices.
 - b. Turns out that pursuing CCA was approved at a town meeting in 2012. The select board agreed that we can use this prior vote to move forward.
 - c. Next step: suggest to Select Board which consultants we suggest working with.
 - i. MSK made a motion that we choose Peregrine; LV seconded; vote 7-0
 - ii. SW will reach out to Peregrine and ask them to attend the Select Board meeting on Wednesday, September 7. Remote attendance is fine.
- VII. **Update: Waste committee task force** (OG and MSK presenting)
- a. Process to extend the waste contract for a year is ongoing.
 - b. Mattress disposal
 - i. There will be a mattress dumpster
 - ii. What do we do to help people who aren't able to bring their old mattresses from their homes to the dumpster site.
 - 1. MSK will look into some hauling companies
- VIII. **Update: Composting** (OG presenting)
- a. OG has been in conversation with Black Earth Compost
 - b. Green Maynard will be raffling off a compost bin at this Saturday's Farmer's Market
- IX. **Update: Green Meadow School new building** (KN presenting)
- a. Preferred schematic has been submitted to Mass School Building Authority (MSBA)
 - b. MSBA will be paying part of the bill for the new school; Maynard will be paying part of the bill. Therefore, MSBA may not approve high-cost green infrastructure.
 - i. KW asked if there are MSBA funds specifically for green infrastructure.
 - c. KN recommends that the sustainability committee write a letter that states our goals for further decisions relating to the design of the school.
 - i. This letter can be similar to the one we submitted previously

- ii. There should be specifics in the letter: designed to be a net-zero building, electric heating and cooling, permeable surfaces, roof water collection and reuse, etc.
 - iii. Potentially include that there doesn't need to be a gas line serving the building.
 - iv. Include the goal of resilience ("weather hardened"), which could also include creating the building as a safe space for community members during a weather emergency.
 - v. KW will start a draft of this letter; goal to get it to KN in the next week or so
 - d. JS asks about the green subcommittee for the building design committee
 - i. KN says the new green subcommittee will be formed at the next meeting. Likely members: Nick (Architect), director of facilities for the schools, KN, and someone else
 - ii. KN says that a member of the SusCom would be welcome on this green subcommittee. MSK and ZC could potentially tag-team for this duty. LV could also tag team when the topic will specifically be about landscaping.
 - 1. KN will share info about these meetings with our committee.
 - e. KN emailed everyone a link to the CHPS checklist which details the green and sustainable options that will be pursued for the Green Meadow School design.
- X. **Update: Nature Based solutions** (PR reporting)
- a. KW, LV and PR are working on this, no major updates at this point.
- XI. **Committee webpage** (KW reporting)
- a. We should have a webpage with lots of useful information for households to become more sustainable as easily as possible.
 - i. PR asks: Do we do this before we have the Climate Action Plan or wait until that's finished in the spring?
 - b. We should also be posting our documents
 - i. Mission statement of this committee
 - ii. Greenhouse gas inventory
 - c. SW suggests that she could potentially advise a student who could compile resources for residents.
 - d. KN mentions that Acton uses Abode to give info to their residents
- XII. **Public comment**
- a. Roger Stillwater would like to put forth a net-zero motion at the next town meeting about the Green Meadow school.
 - i. Options: (1) recommendation, (2) binding by-law, or (3) no action. Which should he pursue?
 - ii. PR recommends potentially waiting until the state implements the next stretch code.

- iii. Concerns voiced from multiple committee members about the possibility of a by-law being voted down because there is too much risk that might jeopardize our future goals.
- iv. Others mentioned that this is something that the sustainability subcommittee for the Green Meadow school design will pursue.

XIII. **Adjourn at 9:00 PM**

- a. KW moves; LV seconds; 7-0 in favor