

**Wellfleet Energy and Climate Action Committee**  
**Minutes of the Meeting of August 31, 2020**  
**Remote Participation**  
**7:00 p.m.**

**Present:** Richard Elkin, Charles Cole, Lilli-Ann Green, Carol Magenau, Suzanne Ryan, Gorham Brigham, David Mead-Fox

**Guest:** Ryan Curley

Chair Elkin called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

This Zoom meeting was recorded and posted on Town website.

**BUSINESS**

**Review of rules for remote participation under open meeting law (OML):** Elkin stated that there needs to be no serial discussion via email in accordance with OML. He also acknowledged that the previous 2 hour meeting of 8/17 was illegal and this meeting is a redo of that meeting because the link posted online was not valid. Magenau pointed out that the posting online shows inconsistencies in the meeting date. It was clarified with Courtney Butler, Executive Assistant to the Town Administrator who stated that the date posted online was correct and that our meeting could proceed under OML rules. Elkin said that during remote participation a roll call vote must be taken. Also, items not listed on the agenda can not be discussed.

**Approval of minutes:**

**Motion:** Magenau moved to approve minutes as submitted<sup>1</sup>. Ryan seconded. The motion carried 7-0

**Discussion of ground-source heat pumps with Kathy Hannun of Dandelion Energy:** NA, she is not available to discuss.

**Discussion, possible Town Meeting (TM) presentation, matching grant funding and possible vote on position for Article 17:** Ryan gave an overview of the request. It is possible that not all \$50,000 would be used but it may be necessary based upon grants approved and the amounts needed for matches. The Green Community Act (GCA) grant was awarded for \$137,000. Not all of the details are available at this time. Green recommended requesting a written document outlining the particulars for the details of the GCA grant with the required matching amounts.

**Motion:** Green moved to recommend Article 17<sup>2</sup>. Magenau seconded. The motion carried 7-0  
Ryan has written supporting document for TM and emailed it to committee members. Green did not receive this. Ryan will resend. She also stated that the document is due the following day to the town.

**Discussion, possible TM presentation, and possible vote on position for Article 25: Proposal to Amend Town of Wellfleet General Bylaw regarding Section 39 "Climate Policy"<sup>3</sup>:**

Green recommended not taking action since the committee was not asked to take action. The Bylaw committee voted 2-0 to not recommend because the former Town Clerk is on the committee and said this petitioned article is not a legal article and one can not change the town bylaws as per this article. She is very knowledgeable and recommended the article is indefinitely postponed. Green stated that the

business of town meeting is important and needs to be completed, people are concerned about their health rightly so but are willing to meet and conduct the town's business. She thought it was not a good idea during a pandemic to increase public exposure needlessly by taking the time to debate a question that we know would be determined to be illegal and that our town is mostly doing already. She does not think it is justified to debate this question because the committee wants visibility about concerns the high school building should be net zero. There are other ways to make this point to the public. Mead-Fox said he thinks the question should go forward and the committee should vote to recommend the article. Elkin said we should vote on this and let it be determined if it is legal or not later.

**Motion:** Magenau moved to recommend article 25. Mead-Fox seconded. The motion carried 6-1 (Green voted no)

Elkin will email all committee members with handout in support of Article 25 for TM, Committee members may review and recommend minor revisions.

### **Discussion and possible approval of additional actions regarding the proposed new Nauset**

**Regional High School building:** Elkin spoke about installing a ground source heat pump for heating and cooling. He is emailing with Harry Terkanian who is a member of the building design committee.

**A. Discussion of grant opportunities for ground source heat pumps:** No information. Elkin will research.

**B. Discussion of community outreach program for 2021 – Outer Cape Energize:** Mead-Fox talked about opportunities to raise awareness using a PowerPoint slide deck and meetings with the public. A discussion was held with all members of the committee regarding what approach may be most effective. Elkin and Brigham are interested in a more engaging presentation than PowerPoint, perhaps with video and animation. Green brought up Open Meeting Law (OML) and the importance to structure this outreach in a manner that does not violate the law. Green and Magenau are willing to work with Mead-Fox.

**C. Photovoltaic, conservation, batteries, ground-source heat pumps, electric vehicles:** The consensus was that all of these topics should be included in outreach to the public.

**Joint possible actions with Truro and Orleans energy committees:** Steele from Truro is interested in setting up a Zoom meeting as a multi-town effort. Green talked about making sure OML is followed, the meeting is noticed in all towns and if there is a quorum of the town committee members present, minutes need to be taken. There was a discussion of the steps involved and the sequencing of the steps. There was not agreement in what comes first, town committee agreement, SelectBoard approval, and then public engagement or some other process. The various groups already working on these issues and overlap, including the Cape Cod Commission was discussed.

**Discussion and review of grant proposal status:** Ryan updated the committee. The GCA grant has been awarded. The details have not been disclosed. There is a match required. The new Town Administrator (TA) asked our committee to announce this grant award to the media. Ryan will work on this communication and receive approval from the TA. Magenau researched the proposed sin bin grant. It is not appropriate now but may be after the harbor is dredged. She will follow up at that time.

**Review of implications of new pending state legislation:** No further information

**Status of PV array on landfill:** Selectboard member Curley will follow up with the status of this project. It is the understanding that clarification from town council may help move this process forward.

**Global Covenant of Mayors/Green Community Act reporting:** Brigham and Elkin read the meters as of 7/1. The information has been forwarded to the Cape Light Compact in order to update the file and report regarding the Green Communities Act.

**Committee liaison:** The Cape Cod Commission (CCC) is requesting stakeholders as individuals and groups to work on a Climate Action Plan. A discussion was held regarding the committee asking to be a part of this stakeholder group.

**Motion:** Green moved to apply to the CCC as a stakeholder. Mead-Fox seconded. The motion carried 7-0

**Effort for consolidation of billing from town meters:** Brigham was sent a consolidated bill from Chatham to be used as an example and has forwarded this information to the Wellfleet Department of Public Works for their review and feedback. Elkin and Brigham are working with the Mass Energy Insight program.

**Request for future agenda topics:** None

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:** Ryan announced there will be an OpEd in the Banner on Thursday regarding the new high school as a net zero building. Elkin had an interview on WCAI on the same topic which has not aired yet. The next meeting will be held on 9/21 at 7 pm.

**Motion:** Green moved to adjourn the meeting. Brigham seconded. The motion carried 7-0. The meeting was adjourned at 8:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Lilli-Ann Green, Committee Secretary

<sup>1</sup> Minutes

<sup>2</sup> Article 17

<sup>3</sup> Article 25