

**Wellfleet Energy and Climate Action Committee**  
**Minutes of the Meeting of January 13, 2020**  
**Wellfleet Council on Aging**  
**6:30 p.m.**

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

**Guest:** David Mead-Fox

Chair Elkin called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

The meeting was videotaped for viewing on public access TV.

**BUSINESS**

**Welcome back from a medical leave of absence for David Mead-Fox:** David joined the meeting as a guest. The Selectboard agenda of 1/14/20 asks for him to be reinstated as a member of the committee.

**Approval of minutes:**

**Motion:** Cole moved to approve minutes as submitted. Magenau seconded. The motion carried 6-0

**Discussion and review of grant application proposals:** Ryan updated the committee as to the grants proposed she and the subcommittee is aiming to apply for. The committee has reviewed the concepts and has expressed support for her to continue working on the grants.

- A. The Green Communities Act (GCA) next round for grants. Thermal shades or insulating drapes for municipal buildings including the Elementary School, the Council on Aging and the Town Hall.
- B. Grant to review the town bylaws and building codes and compare with model bylaws the The Cape Cod Commission (CCC) is developing as a pilot program with several towns. The grant would fund assessment by an engineer and lawyer to make recommendations to the town.
- C. The municipal vulnerability grant to conduct a feasibility study to identify low lying areas, culverts and beach parking lots, recommend solutions and prioritize action steps. The CCC will work with Wellfleet and other towns regarding the vulnerability grants. The CCC will wait until the spring cycle to apply for the grant.

The scope of municipal vulnerability was discussed.

- A. Elkin talked about grants regarding Wellfleet's vulnerable population regarding a climate change disaster. A discussion was held and members of the committee offered suggestions. The elderly population, the disabled and children may be included in the population to be reviewed.
- B. Locations that may be included are the two mobile home areas in town. Ryan will research the vulnerability grants related to people in Massachusetts communities.
- C. Mead-Fox questioned if the vulnerability funding could map the pollution causing equipment in Wellfleet Harbor. He will research the answer and coordinate with the town, the Center for Coastal Studies and the CCC. Cole will coordinate with the two shellfish committees in town.
- D. Brigham asked if wildfires are a concern and in the scope for vulnerability grant funding. Green spoke about historic severe problems with wildfires and the Cape Cod National Seashore concerns and diligence regarding wildfires.
- E. Elkin spoke about damage from rainstorm i.e. the Cahoon Hollow parking lot collapse and potentially roads washed out in the near future. We are concerned about erosion, sea level rise and also damage from rainstorms.

**Global Covenant of Mayors status and action:** No update. Elkin asked for a summary statement. He asked that it be tied to the Green Communities Act and the work the committee has accomplished to date. Magenau will contact Shapiro to coordinate summary.

**Large solar array update:** Elkin updated the committee. The progress is stalled due to paper work the town will execute and also obtaining a clear title so Eversource will be able to complete its work. The project is slated to be completed in the first quarter of 2020. Brigham will work with Eversource to get one consolidated bill. All energy credits can be applied to this one bill.

**Outer Cape Energize Update:** Mead-Fox updated the committee. ACE will continue to offer solar panels to Outer Cape town residents and businesses at a discounted price. The group is talking about a new round of offerings for businesses exclusively. Green said that from her understanding of statements made at a CCC meeting she and Elkin attended, Orleans may be very interested in working with the group on this project.

**Discussion about presentation to Selectboard on 1/14/20:** The following people will discuss the topics below:

Elkin will present overview; Mead-Fox, Outer Cape Energize; Elkin, large solar array; Magenau, Global Covenant of Mayors; Ryan, grant application proposals

**Old Business:** Cole and others talked about low income housing. Videotaping the meeting is helping to get the word out about energy audits and programs to help low income residents with energy conservation and efficiency and also about taking out a low income solar loan with no money down for solar panels. People working on the Lawrence Rd. low income housing development have reached out to members of the committee in order to obtain helpful information.

Elkin will email all committee members the final version of the Committee section of the Town Annual Report.

Mead-Fox spoke about coordinating with Truro for a regional project. Elkin updated him as to our meeting with the Truro committee members who were interested in our ideas but not interested to work with us at that time since their committee had just started to meet. He will reach out to them to see if they would like to meet with our committee again.

**New Business:** Elkin talked about an Electric vehicle (EV) car show on the Outer Cape. A discussion was held regarding available EVs, charging stations, education and how one would go about organizing the event. Green volunteered to spearhead the special event.

Magenau discussed the new local comprehensive plan draft and the section on energy. She stated the draft will be distributed to the committee.

Green updated the committee regarding a Cape Cod Climate Initiative meeting held by the CCC she and Elkin attended as energy committee stakeholders. The CCC intends to address issues raised during discussions about the Regional Policy Plan.

Mead-Fox introduced a petitioned article for the Annual Town Meeting to be discussed. Elkin will include this on the agenda for the next meeting.

Letters were sent to Elkin and Cole asking to bring information to the Selectboard to support Massachusetts House Bill H2810.

The next meetings will be held at 6:30 pm on February 10 and March 9 at the Council on Aging.

**Motion:** Green moved to adjourn the meeting. Cole seconded. The motion carried 6-0.  
The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



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Lilli-Ann Green, Committee Secretary