

Wellfleet Energy and Climate Action Committee

Minutes for 16 March 2023

Remote Participation

Present: Suzanne Ryan-Ishkanian (Chair), Lilli-Ann Green (Vice-Chair), Carol Magenau (Secretary), Dick Elkin, David Mead-Fox

The meeting was called to order by Chair Ryan-Ishkanian at 7:18 PM.

The meeting was recorded.

Business

Motion to approve minutes of previous meetings [for July, August, November, and February, as distributed by Magenau] made by Green, seconded by Elkin, voted in favor 5-0-0.

Ryan-Ishkanian mentioned the possibility of Elspeth Hay attending a future meeting (instead of tonight as originally planned), and possibly joining the committee. Magenau suggested placing an ad in the *Provincetown Independent* seeking a **new member** and also asking John Cumbler for suggestions.

Green made a **motion that the committee continue to meet remotely** until it is no longer allowed; seconded by Mead-Fox, voted in favor 5-0-0. Ryan-Ishkanian will book the conference room at the Adult Community Center in case we need it for an in-person meeting. Due to various scheduling conflicts, it was agreed to hold the April meeting on the 4th Thursday, April 27.

Mead-Fox reported on planning for the **electric car show** scheduled for Sat. June 3, 10AM-2PM. The test drive route has been identified, with 8 volunteer drivers enlisted. Promotion will begin in April. There are 15 exhibitors signed up. Magenau volunteered to coordinate handouts and scheduling for the Outer Cape Climate Action Committees' table.

At the last Selectboard meeting Mead-Fox's summary of the warrant Article on the opt-in **stretch code** was approved. On April 13 there will be a Wellfleet Community Forum meeting to include a presentation on the stretch code by Mead-Fox and someone from the state, plus other topics. Mead-Fox intends to prepare a handout on the stretch code for Pre-Town Meeting and perhaps the Forum meeting. He has also been talking with the *Independent* editor about a possible editorial about the stretch code. Elkin suggested the write-up be sent to the Wellfleet Non-Resident Taxpayers Association.

Shapiro not being present, there was no news on the **Global Covenant of Mayors**. Magenau will contact him about doing a short talk at the next meeting on how other committee members could help with problem areas. She proposed that we take up perhaps one problem area at each future meeting.

Grants -- Ryan-Ishkanian reported that we are waiting to hear in the next two weeks whether our proposal for DLTA [District Local Technical Assistance] funding to lay the groundwork for a **Climate Action Plan** has been approved. If it is not, other alternatives will be pursued. Magenau reported that she attended a webinar on the **MVP program**, which would be one such possibility. They are announcing a new “2.0” MVP program in addition to the traditional MVP grants. According to Hillary Lemos, although we have 2 MVP grants in progress, we would be eligible for another.

For **new business**, Magenau suggested that we may want to investigate the **Massachusetts Climate Change Assessment** (a report issued December 2022), which is a new feature of MVP grant applications.

Under **old business**, Elkin suggested that we get familiar with the state’s “road map” climate report and the Cape Cod Commission’s **Climate Action Plan**. Will our local Plan be a statement of goals, or something with very specific action items? Magenau stated that it’s important that the plan we come up with fits in the framework needed by the Global Covenant. Ryan-Ishkanian pointed out that the Plan will be developed with widespread participation throughout the town. Elkin stated that since the town government properties and activities do not produce a lot of greenhouse gases, much of the education needs to be directed at persuading residents to make improvements in residences, transport, etc.

Future topics proposed by Mead-Fox [in a 2/17 email]:

Direct pay on clean energy projects – Ryan-Ishkanian will report on
Inflation Reduction Act [IRA] summary for energy and climate – Magenau will report on
Commercial Clean Vehicle Credit [no one volunteered]

Elkin stated that through the IRA the federal government has coopted what the **Mass Save** program has been doing, so we need to keep abreast of what Mass Save (and on the Cape and Islands, Cape Light Compact) decides its new role will be.

Elkin proposed that we consider recommending that all new **town vehicles** be electric. There was discussion about the concerns voiced by Chief Hurley and others. Mead-Fox will check with Recharge America (sponsor of the e-v show) about what Cape towns have acquired electric vehicles.

Motion to adjourn was made by Elkin, seconded by Mead-Fox, voted in favor 5-0-0. Meeting was adjourned at 8:34 PM.

Next meeting: Thursday April 27 at 7:15 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary C. Magenau

Carol [Mary C.] Magenau, Secretary