

## Wellfleet Energy and Climate Action Committee

Minutes for 15 February 2024

Remote Participation

**Present:** Suzanne Ryan-Ishkanian, Lilli-Ann Green (acting as Chair), Carol Magenau (Secretary), Gorham Brigham, Cynthia Franklin, Nancy Gralla

**Guests:** Lisa Sullivan (Green Communities Coordinator, Southeast Region, Dept. of Energy Resources), Bob Higgins-Steele (Truro Energy Committee), Patricia Taylor

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chair Green at 7:19. The meeting was recorded.

### Business

[19:21] Lisa Sullivan shared a presentation on **Climate Leader Communities**, stating it was her first talk on this new program, an enhanced level of participation being offered to Green Communities in good standing. Wellfleet and Truro are the first towns in the southeast region to adopt the opt-in stretch code and are well-positioned to apply for the new designation. Sullivan shared background on relevant legislation, criteria for certification, best practices, and new funding opportunities that would come with the designation. The MassEnergyInsight database will be enhanced to estimate emissions reductions. Sullivan will share her slide show with us, which contains links to lots of resources, and recommends that we attend the upcoming webinar on 2/29 [rescheduled twice, now 3/14]. A “municipal decarbonization roadmap” must be in place for a successful application, and funding is available for hiring a consultant to help create this.

[19:58] Members observed a **moment of silence** in memory of our deceased colleague Richard “Dick” Elkin, longtime Chair of the Committee. Higgins-Steele expressed his sympathy and left the meeting.

[20:04] Franklin spoke about the idea of **student outreach**. She has some contacts but wants to identify a “clear ask” from the Committee before approaching students. Brigham proposed looking into what other communities have done, perhaps through Lisa Sullivan. [Youth outreach/education is listed as a community engagement activity for Climate Leader Communities.] Magenau mentioned the Great School Electrification Challenge as a possible specific activity for students. Green stated that the Cape Cod Commission was working with students from Nauset High School in its Climate Ambassador program. Magenau proposed putting student outreach on the back burner until we see more of how our plan is taking shape. Brigham suggested a “parking lot” on our agenda for things we are not actively discussing but don’t want to forget about.

[20:16] Magenau read an amendment to the minutes proposed by Steve Tupper. **Motion to accept the minutes as amended** was made by Franklin, seconded by Brigham and voted 6-0-0 in favor.

[20:18] Green called for **future agenda items**, to include a discussion of Brigham's idea of dedicating the solar array in Dick Elkin's honor. Magenau proposed a review of committee liaisons.

[20:20] Franklin reported that the **electric-bike incentive** money is depleted, but she is working on a letter to bike shop owners about the incentive program, plus the possibility for funding rental e-bikes. She suggested it may make sense to send the letter jointly with our counterpart committees on the Outer Cape.

[20:24] Gralla reported that she and Dick Elkin were supposed to have met with Jay Norton last week, but the meeting was postponed. She and Brigham will continue to seek information from him concerning **electrification of town buildings**, and the **broken solar arrays**.

[20:31] Regarding the **committee website**, Magenau asked if anyone had the password. Since Dick Elkin had managed this, we will need someone, perhaps a sub-committee, to take it over. Green suggested that Jeff Tash might have the password.

[20:33] **Motion to adjourn** made by Brigham, seconded by Magenau, voted 5-0-0. The meeting ended at 8:34.

**Next meeting:** March 21, 7:15PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary C. Magenau

Carol [Mary C.] Magenau, Secretary