

Wellfleet Energy and Climate Action Committee
Minutes of the Meeting of November 18, 2019
Wellfleet Council on Aging
6:30 p.m.

2020 JAN 13 P 1:18

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

Chair Elkin called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

A request to tape record the meeting by Lilli-Ann Green was made and the request was granted by the Wellfleet Energy and Climate Action Committee (WECAC) Chair, Elkin.

BUSINESS

Approval of minutes:

Motion: Cole moved to approve minutes as submitted. Magenau seconded. The motion carried 4 in favor, 0 opposed and 1 abstention.

Medical leave of absence for David Mead-Fox: The Selectboard approved this action

Discussion and review of grant application proposals: Ryan has worked with the Cape Cod Commission (CCC). The liaison at the CCC suggested several towns in Barnstable County are interested in the same grants and it may be more successful to apply for these grants under the umbrella of the CCC. Ryan suggested that Wellfleet wait until the spring cycle and work with the CCC and the at least 6 other towns to apply for a grant to conduct a feasibility study to identify low lying areas, culverts and beach parking lots, recommend solutions and prioritize action steps. Ryan suggested handing this project off to the CCC. Ryan is also looking at grants to identify zoning issues regarding climate change. It was decided to wait until Mead-Fox returns from his medical leave since he is on the Planning Board. Elkin suggested Ryan reach out to the CCC as well as our state senator and representative about this topic.

Mass Energy Insight Program Progress: In order to submit data for the Green Communities Act report information is needed regarding the solar panels on the Elementary School, the Library and the Fire Station. This is the same information that is needed for the Mass Energy Insight Program.

Temporary liaison for the Planning Board: Mead-Fox will return to the committee soon so this is not needed

Large solar array update: Elkin updated the committee. The project is approximately 90% complete. Cole asked if Ameresco will invite the committee to tour the site. Elkin will check to see when the committee and the Selectboard members will be able to take a tour of the photovoltaic installation.

Outer Cape Energize Update: There are 4 free solar array systems available to non-profit organizations. The projects must be 25-250 kw each. Cape Cod National Seashore is working with the WECAC to explore the possibility of solar panels at the headquarters maintenance area building. Elkin is also working with Outer Cape Health as a possible site.

New Business: The next meeting will be held at 7:00 pm on December 10th at the Council on Aging.

Old Business: A letter requesting funds for a consultant the Planning Board utilized to evaluate the solar project was in the correspondence folder. Green handed the letter to the proper authority at Town Hall. Elkin reported that the Cape Light Compact (CLC) has a 3 year plan to bundle solar power, battery storage and air source heat pumps and offer savings to low income homes. CLC is verifying with the Department of Public Utilities (DPU) that the plan is legally correct to implement. Cole suggested the appropriate entities in our town should be made aware of this opportunity if DPU approves it. Magenau stated that the Cape Cod Commission is helping with obtaining data to complete a Greenhouse gas emissions inventory. They are finding stumbling blocks of fleet averages and heating fuel reporting. CLC is working on the Green Communities Act report. Cole will attend the Wellfleet Shellfish Association meeting. Questions he has are regarding climate change, specifically tidal surge and access to shellfish areas. Elkin suggested asking about warmer and more acidic water and if they are interested in a state grant to assess these issues. Green suggested asking what they have concerns about that we may be able to help.

Motion: Green moved to adjourn the meeting. Magenau seconded. The motion carried 5-0. The meeting was adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Lilli-Ann Green, Committee Secretary

