

Wellfleet Energy and Climate Action Committee

Minutes for 17 November 2022

Remote Participation

Present: Suzanne Ryan-Ishkanian (Acting Chair), Dick Elkin, David Mead-Fox, Robert Shapiro

Guest: Jeff Tash (Finance Committee liaison)

The meeting began at 7:19 PM. Ryan-Ishkanian announced that she is acting Chair until Elkin decides if he will resume as Chair.

The meeting was recorded.

Electric car show Mead-Fox is replacing Elkin on the steering committee. The group is being coordinated by Recharge America, a nonprofit that promotes electric vehicles, and their staff will do a lot of the work. The e-v car show will take place in Hyannis on Saturday June 3. Tables are planned for organizations to distribute information. Elkin proposed that we invite other Outer Cape towns to join us in having a presence at the show. There is a symposium on April 12 in Boston run by Recharge MA, for which we get 2 free passes as a sponsor, but it would require an overnight stay the night before. For publicity Tash suggested a promotional video on Lower Cape news (Lower Cape TV).

Mead-Fox stated that Truro would like to have a **presentation on solar** in May. Elkin felt that someone else could give his presentation.

Mead-Fox reported on the process for possible approval of the “stretchier” stretch code. It must be voted on at Town Meeting, and would take effect at least 6 months after the vote at the start of July or January. State agencies are developing related materials. Coordination with other towns probably makes sense given that contractors work in multiple towns. Mead-Fox will be meeting with the new building inspector to ask for his support.

Mead-Fox will try to get these two issues (car show and stretch code) on the agenda for the Dec. 6 meeting of the **Outer Cape Climate Action Committees**.

Global Covenant of Mayors Shapiro forwarded materials received today, showing that we got a D- grade for our submission. We don't fit into their framework well, which is mostly for cities. Shapiro would find it useful to discuss the reporting process after people have had a chance to review the materials. He clarified that the scoring is based on the entire town, not just town-owned facilities. Mead-Fox stated that a Climate Action Plan should help satisfy their requirements. Tash suggested a discussion of one area per month of the Covenant's “report card.” Ryan-Ishkanian said she would share the scoring document with everyone. Shapiro said he would do a presentation at the next meeting about the items on which we are getting a failing score.

Climate Action Plan Ryan-Ishkanian reported that she and Magenau had met with ATA Rebecca Roughley, who suggested that creating a Climate Action Plan would be a useful way of engaging with town staff and committees on climate issues. We expect to apply for a DLTA [District Local Technical Assistance] grant which would pay to have help from the Cape Cod Commission in developing the plan.

Workshop on Historic Preservation and Climate Change Mead-Fox reported that the Wellfleet Historical Commission is requesting participation by someone from our committee in preparing for this workshop planned for April 2023. Tash pointed out that historically in Wellfleet houses have been picked up and moved when under threat, and that houses were constructed to take advantage of natural elements like sunlight.

A discussion was held on filling the vacant alternate position, and possible other vacancies due to the town bylaw which states that missing four consecutive meetings automatically vacates the position on a committee. Members agreed to contact possible new members, and to have **committee membership** as an agenda item at the next meeting.

Ryan-Ishkanian reported that Outer Cape Climate Action Committees is having **Ronit Goldstein from Eversource** attend on December 6, and we might want to invite her to attend one of our meetings.

Motion to adjourn made by Mead-Fox, seconded by Elkin, passed 4-0-0. The meeting ended at 8:32 PM.

Next meeting: Thursday, Dec. 15 at 7:15 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carol [Mary C.] Magenau, acting as Secretary