

Wellfleet Energy and Climate Action Committee

Minutes for 18 August 2022

Remote Participation

Present: Dick Elkin (Chair), Gorham Brigham [alternate serving as member], Carol Magenau, David Mead-Fox

Guests: John Riehl (Natural Resources Advisory Board), Barbara Carboni (Selectboard)

The meeting was called to order by Chair Elkin at 7:15 PM.

The meeting was recorded.

Business

Chair Elkin introduced guests Riehl and Carboni. Riehl asked for input/support on the Natural Resources Advisory Board's proposed Flora and Fauna **Project to inventory the harbor**. This project would provide a baseline for evaluation with changes coming from the Herring River Restoration and climate change. Elkin suggested asking member Ryan-Ishkanian and Heather McIlroy at the Cape Cod Commission for any suggestions about grant funding. **Motion** to support their article on the town warrant made by Brigham, seconded by Magenau, passed 4-0-0.

Elkin led a discussion of **new legislation**:

The state legislation expedites permitting etc. for wind energy; codifies greenhouse gas emissions goals (various targets leading up to 100% below 1990 levels by 2050, more ambitious than the federal goals); and directs the DPU [Dept. of Public Utilities] to look into time-of-use metering.

The federal IRA [Inflation Reduction Act] provides rebates but subject to income qualification (whereas Cape Light Compact rebates are generally not subject to income qualifications); "networked geothermal" is for multiple housing units/neighborhoods (geothermal AKA ground-source heat pumps is an ideal technology for Cape Cod because of our sandy soil).

Elkin will invite **Town Administrator** Rich Waldo to the Sept. meeting. Magenau and Ryan-Ishkanian will prepare questions for discussion and circulate for additions beforehand.

Global Covenant of Mayors Elkin is reading meters at the library and fire station, and landfill energy production is linked from the WECAC web page. Elkin suggested Brigham review the allocations made to town accounts to be sure we are taking full advantage of the production at the landfill. Barbara Carboni agreed to get information on this from the town accountant.

Elkin has scheduled three **climate action presentations** at the library for August and September. Brigham agreed to introduce the first session.

Magenau reported that the Selectboard and the Cape Cod Climate Change Collaborative have sent letters to Paul Hilton at the Cape Cod Collaborative in support of acquiring **electric school buses**.

No other Town meeting **warrant articles** were proposed for a committee vote. Elkin will communicate our vote on the NRAB harbor study to the Town Moderator, since the warrant has already gone to the printer.

No new business or future topics were proposed.

Motion to adjourn made by Brigham, seconded by Magenau, passed 4-0-0. Meeting was adjourned at 8:11.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary C. Magenau

Carol [Mary C.] Magenau, acting as Secretary