

**Wellfleet Energy and Climate Action Committee**  
**Minutes of the Meeting of April 13, 2020**  
**Remote Participation**  
**7:00 p.m.**

**Present:** Richard Elkin, Charles Cole, Lilli-Ann Green, Robert Shapiro, Carol Magenau, Suzanne Ryan and Gorham Brigham

**Finance Committee Liaison:** Jeff Tash

Chair Elkin called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

The meeting was videotaped.

**BUSINESS**

**Approval of minutes:**

**Motion:** Magenau moved to approve minutes as submitted<sup>1</sup>. Elkin seconded. The motion carried 7-0

**Request for future agenda topics:** Brigham suggested the topic of a 5 year energy plan. Elkin asked for members to contact him with any other ideas.

**Joint actions with Truro committees:** Ryan reached out to Truro and they expressed an interest in Zoom meetings. Elkin will email a list of instructions of how to use Zoom.

**Review of implications of new pending state legislation:** Elkin updated the committee that the Senate passed legislation calling for MA to be net zero by 2050.

**Energy/building standards for new regional High School:** A discussion was held and it was confirmed that the committee would like to see the school design be net zero or as close as possible. Green reported that she followed up from the last meeting and talked with Dawn Rickman who is on the Bylaw Committee. Dawn served as Town Clerk for a number of years. Dawn said the main reason why the Bylaw Committee voted to not recommend article 32, which is a petitioned article, is because the article asks for a policy change. Town Meeting does not approve policy changes, the Selectboard makes and approves policies. It was therefore recommended by Green that the committee ask the Selectboard for a policy change that will reflect the spirit of working towards reducing the town greenhouse gas emissions and recognized the work the town is already taking action on. The form petitioned article from 350.org does not reflect what is happening in our town, the work of this committee, the work of others and the awareness regarding climate change in our town. The policy could include an option to include some action to reevaluate the new regional High School design so it is net zero or closer to being net zero. There was consensus to talk with the Selectboard about next steps. Elkin and Green will collaborate on a letter to the Selectboard asking for time on their next meeting agenda to discuss items the committee would like direction from the Selectboard about. Tash updated the committee regarding the Finance Committee's meeting discussions about the topic.

**Motion:** Elkin moved to recommend to the Selectboard that a policy be adopted to state the town has the objective of reducing net greenhouse gas emissions in the Town to zero at the earliest technically and

economically feasible time, and that all officers and departments of the Town work toward such policy and objective, and he and Green will work collaboratively to craft wording to bring to the Selectboard. Magenau seconded. The motion carried 7-0

**Electric Vehicle (EV) Promotion:** No further information due to the COVID 19 situation and pending input from the Selectboard.

**Discussion and Review of Grant Application Proposals:** Ryan presented an overview. The Green Communities grant deadline has moved to May 1. There has been a suggested grant amount of \$140,000 which would include projects in several town buildings. The Department of Public Works (DPW) is reviewing the proposed projects. Each town manager of each building will need to agree to the project in their building. Jay at DPW is working with the managers and Ryan. The Cape Cod Commission (CCC) heard today that the vulnerability grant regarding a survey of low lying roads and parking lots has been funded. More details are to follow. Ryan will continue to work with Truro on a Coastal Zone Management grant to assess coastal resiliency. The deadline for the grant proposal is early June. She is also working on a bylaw and zoning amendment grant. Elkin asked which grants call for matching funds. He has concerns if matching funds will be available because the COVID 19 pandemic will change the finances of towns.

**Global Covenant of Mayors status and action:** Shapiro is available in April and plans to update data to get a more complete picture. Brigham has received a signed ID and has access to the system. He has communicated with the Cape Light Compact and they are aware he has the access. He needs careful coordination and good tutorials next. Elkin would like a 5 year plan and to identify which town buildings and what actions could help to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. He asked Brigham to write an executive summary of where we currently stand and what the goals are for the future. Shapiro said he identified issues and submitted a document a few years ago. He will review and work with Brigham and Elkin to update. He said that the first several years, there have been easy fixes and then, looking into the future it is difficult to make progress.

**Large solar array update:** The town is still waiting for land court to take action.

**Effort for consolidation of billing from town meters:** Brigham is waiting for a response in order to move forward.

**Old Business:** A discussion was held as to changing the time of the meeting. It was decided to leave the meeting dates and time as is.

**New Business:** Elkin, Shapiro and Brigham will work on a draft of a 5 year plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions of town buildings and property. The next meeting will be held on Monday, May 18 at 7:00 p.m.

**Motion:** Green moved to adjourn the meeting. Cole seconded. The motion carried 7-0. The meeting was adjourned at 8:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lilli-Ann Green  
Lilli-Ann Green, Committee Secretary

<sup>1</sup> Minutes