

## Climate Action Committee Minutes

March 13, 2023 / 5:00 PM /SM. CONFERENCE ROOM Eastham Town Hall

Called to order at 5 pm.

### In Attendance

Members: Roberta Longley, Roy Merolli (via Zoom), Cheryl Gayle, Tom McNellis, Ellen Greer, and Olav Hegland. Absent: Mike Sarcione.

Guests: Gary Senecal, Recycling Committee, Bailey Nobili, President of NHRS Green Club, John Boiney (resident).

**Administrative Matters:** Reminder for all members to complete Conflict of Interest Training.

**Minutes:** February meeting minutes accepted with correction: Jud Stailey, former climatologist, and meteorologist.

### Spring Events:

Committee approved the following events:

- ◇ 4/6/23: Mychal Johnson, founder of South Bronx Unite, recently attended Climate Conference in Cairo and will deliver lecture tailored to environmental issues pertinent to Cape Cod.
- ◇ 4/20/23: Jud Stailey, former climatologist and meteorologist - 45-minute presentation followed by 30-minute Q&A, attendees will note questions on cards to be screened by Roberta. Representatives from NRHS Green Club will join, including submitting questions prior to the meeting (see prior minutes for details). Will gauge interest of town administrators regarding a pre-event meeting with Stailey.
- ◇ 5/18/23: Lor Holmes, a local Environmental Justice expert and manager at CERO Cooperative (award-winning commercial composting company based in Dorchester), will talk about the science of composting and how you can do it home.

Events to be publicized in COA newsletter. COA may provide transportation to the events for seniors. Consider producing flyers for emails, webpage and social media, check budget for mailing.

- ◇ Olav met with Wellfleet and Truro Climate reps. Work with other towns on Outer Cape to get better info session on stretch code. Lisa Sullivan planning a session for citizens on 4/13 (at 6 or 7pm TBD), at Wellfleet COA but all 4 towns invited. Meeting will be hybrid.
- ◇ Committee mandate to support solar education for residents, businesses, and the town. Friends of Library have offered to help fund event on solar power in the fall. Consider forming a subcommittee to further pursue solar initiatives.

## **Climate Strategies and Action Plan**

Steve Tupper of Cape Cod Commission provided information on potential funding opportunity (\$40k grant) for Eastham to do formal greenhouse gas inventory with consultant. Waiting on decision from grant submission.

- ◇ CAC to share goals with Strategic Planning Committee, who is seeking input from CAC on how to insert climate goals and strategies into revised strategic plan.
- ◇ Cape Cod Commission seeks to help towns adopt relevant pieces from the Cape Cod Commission's Climate Action plan, including recommending strategies for towns to potentially adopt. 12 strategies to study, including priority rankings, recommendations, and ROI details.
- ◇ Tom and Roberta will work on rough draft to submit to CAC at the April meeting.

## **Specialized Building Code**

- ◇ Must be voted by town meeting – Truro and Wellfleet have warrants to see if town will adopt specialized code.
- ◇ Eastham will wait and make decision based on other towns' experiences.
- ◇ Olav - 3/2 meeting centered on stretch code, which is already adopted by default. More education needed, including metrics showing how many homes would be affected and what the actual cost is. 4/13 hybrid meeting open to all towns geared toward citizens and residents.
- ◇ David Fox Mead (Wellfleet) provided a 1-page summary of the presentation given to the Wellfleet select board, which added a warrant for the specialized stretch code to be voted on in the Spring 2023 town meeting.
- ◇ Bob Higgins Steele (Truro) asked for database of permits from town administrator to see how many homes would be affected by the adoption.

**CAC Webpage** - Proposed changes submitted to Jackie and Laurie, waiting for implementation from Kayla.

## **Cape Light Compact Report from Eastham Reps to Board of Directors**

- ◇ CLC/RISE Engineering coming to Eastham 5/23 and 5/24 to conduct immediate energy efficiency assessments – up to 100% reimbursed – approved by Jackie. Gary contacted Chamber of Commerce to publicize to business community in weekly email.
- ◇ Cape and Vineyard Electrification Offering (CVEO) – CLC grant to convert 100 Cape residents to full electrification including heat pumps, solar, replacing fossil fuel stoves and water heaters and dryers (and some batteries) at 100 homes (low-income housing prioritized). Eastham housing coordinator will work with CLC to identify Eastham candidates.

Meeting Adjourned 6:27 pm; next meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 10, 2023.

Respectfully Submitted: Olav Hegland