

CAC 12/8/22 Meeting Package

Climate Action Committee
 Meeting Minutes
 November 10, 2022

Present: Carol Harris, Fred Gaechter, Lili Flanders, Georgia Neill, Rebecca Bruyn
 Guests: Bob Higgins-Steele

Topic	Discussion	Action
Public Comment	None at this time	
9/29 Minutes	Were approved unanimously	Carol to send to town to post
Truro Talks	Discussion re the December article written by Lili. Questions came up that require input from Emily. Carol to reach out to Emily and follow up with Lili.	Article accepted with edits/input from Emily.
Budget	Carol has reached out to Stephanie. Was told that the forms to complete for budget have been sent out. Carol to wait to hear from town.	More to come
Outreach Education	<p>Rebecca discussed a few updates.</p> <p>Truro Library will co-sponsor with CAC for monthly educational sessions. They have someone to help with media releases/PSAs/social media/email invitations/RSVPs. A draft of the topics for each month has been developed and will be shared at next meeting. First session is January 28th by CLC on electrifying your home, from 2-4 and childcare will be provided as needed.</p> <p>Rebecca and Lili to meet with the school principal and superintendent next Wednesday to begin a conversation about the education they offer their students on climate change.</p> <p>Georgia would like to work with the Truro Pantry to provide Energy Assessment forms in residents lunches. She will find out more information and get back to us.</p> <p>Georgia would like to find more volunteers to help with the development of the Outreach/Education work. She's contacted the newspapers.</p>	<p>A draft of what a small statement re need for volunteers will be sent to Carol to review and present to Town for approval</p> <p>Rebecca to draft a calendar of events to present at next meeting.</p>
Recharge America	Rebecca is unable to assume a role on the Steering Committee for the "Recharge Cape Cod" EV event in June in Hyannis. Georgia may be interested. A call with Caitlin at Recharge America is to be scheduled. This event is one pillar of the Recharge America model. The other pillar is pledging our support for their efforts and	Georgia to meet with Caitlin. Rebecca to provide a summary to Carol who will

	offering to have a presence at the event and online to show participants who the CAC is and what we're working on re EVs and Charging stations, etc.	find out town logo can be used, and if a volunteer can represent CAC.
Evkon	Some discussion re asking a representative from an EV charging station business to think about planning an educational session with businesses. There is interest however it's very complex and will need our help to facilitate	More to come.
Microgrids	Lili and Bob discussed the idea of developing Microgrids in Truro to respond to the need during an emergency when power goes out for a long period of time. Much discussion ensued. All agreed that having a document that defines the need, what's the feasibility of this project, who would be involved, how it would be presented to the town, etc. would be next step.	Lili and Bob to draft a proposal
Septic & Flood Zones	Fred brought up the impact of the rising sea and the placement of new septic systems. He is aware that there are 3 recent requests to the Conservation Commission for waivers re the placement of new septic systems in areas that are at risk for storm surge or rising sea levels. He would like to find a way to provide input on their decision process since they follow the wetlands protection act as their guiding document. The wetlands protection act does not provide guidance re risk of rising sea level and the need to respond by "adapting"	Fred to follow up with the chair of the Conservation Commission.
Climate Change Coordinator	Position is ready to be presented to SB. Some paperwork remains to be completed. Carol to follow up	More to come
Climate Action Plan	A workshop has been scheduled for Tuesday November 15 th from 1-3:30. Place to be determined. Draft will be sent out today to review in advance of the workshop.	Stay tuned
Whole Government Approach (WGA)	Per last meeting, Carol is waiting to hear from Brian re the WGA and need for changes before it goes to SB	More to come
Proposed New Actions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lili read the Green Communities program to better understand what it means to be a Green Community and one area that may be needed is that town must commit to purchasing EVs. The town doesn't have a formal policy though Jarrod is committed. 	Bob to follow up with EC on Monday.

	2. Lili read in the Indie that Truro does not have a policy re the use of glyphosate on town land for vegetation management . All the towns on the Cape except Truro and Bourne have voted to stop using glyphosate.	Lili to follow up with Emily and the Board of Health
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Respectfully submitted,
Rebecca Bruyn

Truro Talks January Article

Word Count: 854

Is learning more about climate change one of your New Year's resolutions? We can help! Below is a list of books, websites and documentaries that can inform, inspire, and engage adults, teenagers, and younger children. Some of the books can be found at the Truro library, and the websites and documentaries are easily accessible online. Enjoy some rich reading during these curl-up winter months!

INFORMATIVE BOOKS FOR ADULTS

The Uninhabitable Earth, by David Wallace-Wells

If you need to quickly get up to speed with the sheer scale of the climate emergency, this succinct but sobering portrait of our future lives on earth may be for you.

Net Zero: How We Stop Causing Climate Change, by Dieter Helm.

This book offers a measured, balanced view of how we stop causing climate change by adopting a net zero strategy of reducing carbon emissions and increasing carbon absorption.

Drawdown: The Most Comprehensive Plan Ever Proposed to Reverse Climate Change, by Paul Hawken

100 of most effective solutions to halt global warming from leading scientists and policymakers, which if adopted, could even reduce the overall greenhouse gases currently present in the atmosphere.

Under a White Sky, by Elizabeth Kolbert

This book vividly describes some of the most cutting-edge and complex solutions to the environmental crisis that humans have come up with.

Ocean of Life: The Fate of man and the Sea, by Callum Roberts

Following the fascinating relationship between man and water, this book provides a powerful warning to save our oceans before it is too late.

INSPIRATIONAL BOOKS FOR ADULTS:

Active Hope, by Joanna Macy & Chris Johnstone

The challenges we face with climate change can be difficult to even think about. Macy and Johnstone show us how to strengthen our capacity to face this crisis so that we can respond with unexpected resilience and creative power.

Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge, and the Teaching of Plants, by Robin Wall Kimmerer

In this lyrical and wise book, Kimmerer—a botanist and member of the Potawatomi Nation—makes a convincing case for reimagining our relationship to nature as one that is mutually beneficial.

To Speak for the Trees, by Diana Beresford Kroger

In a captivating account of how her life led her to insights about trees, this Canadian botanist and biochemist shows us how forests can not only heal us but save our planet.

BOOK FOR YOUNG ADULTS:

Two Degrees, by Alan Gatz

When three children endure separate climate change disasters—a wildfire in the California woods, a close encounter with a hungry polar bear in Canada, and a massive hurricane in Florida—they emerge from their experiences committed to changing the world.

Hello Universe, by Erin Entrada Kelly

The lives of four misfits are intertwined when a bully's prank lands shy Virgil at the bottom of a well and Valencia, Kaori, and Gen band together in an epic quest to find and rescue him.

Red Flag Warning: An Eco Adventure, by Claire Datnow

This novel follows the adventures of three special young people from across the world, the amazing animals that are part of their lives, and the threats they face. They must learn to respect the wildness of the animals they love and find their own voices, along with the power of community, in the mission to heal the Earth.

BOOKS FOR CHILDREN:

We Are Water Protectors, by Carole Lindstrom

This New York Times bestseller is a powerful and inspiring book about environmental activism of Indigenous peoples, highlighting the importance of safeguarding our precious water resources.

Pangolia, by Jane Goodall

This heartwarming children's fiction is wonderfully informative, highlighting the problems and solutions to wildlife trafficking as well as the importance of endangered species conservation, making it one of the best environmental books for kids.

Compost Stew: An A to Z Recipe for the Earth, by Mary McKenna Siddals

This picture book is the perfect educational tool to teach kids how to compost and encourage children to develop life-long habits to help protect the environment, as well as combating climate change.

The Lonely Polar Bear, by Khoa Lee

Climate change can be a tough and difficult subject to talk about with children. But with this picture book, it doesn't have to be. *The Lonely Polar Bear* is a sweet and moving story in which young readers can learn about how the changing climate is affecting wildlife.

DOCUMENTARIES:

Climate Change: The Facts

Presented by David Attenborough, this film goes over the facts of climate change, explaining them so that they are easier to understand. It is available on Amazon Prime Video.

Before the Flood

For three years, Leonardo DiCaprio traveled the world as he filmed this documentary. He and his co-creator/producer visited a variety of regions around the globe to explore the impact of climate change. It is available on Disney +

Our Planet

This docuseries focuses on the issues of conservation. Because of climate change, habitats have been damaged to the point that they have to be maintained or else they might go extinct. It is available on Netflix.

WEBSITES:

Truro Climate Action Committee

<https://www.truro-ma.gov/climate-action-committee>

The Cape Cod Climate Change Collaborative (the 5 Cs)

<https://capecodclimate.org>

One Planet One Future

<https://oneplanetonefuture.org>

Request to Support Recharge MA

To: Truro Select Board and/or Town Manager

From: Truro Climate Action Committee

Date: December XX, 2022

Topic: Request for Truro to Sponsor Recharge MA

Emissions from gas-fueled vehicles is one of the major contributors to greenhouse gas emissions. The Climate Action Committee's has a goal to educate residents and business owners about electric vehicles (EVs) ownership and EV charging. The CAC has learned through our outreach activities that residents are interested in EVs but feel they do not understand enough about them to feel confident about purchasing. One of the best ways to EV and charger education is to partner with other community organizations.

Recharge MA is a statewide, non-profit group working to establish Massachusetts as a leader in the adoption of EV transportation. Their activities include:

- Engaging the community,
- Providing EV test driving,
- Opening education and workforce pipeline opportunities,
- Technical resources,
- Community philanthropy, and
- Annual community celebration.

By working with Recharge MA, Truro can stay up to date on technology improvements, available technical resources, and coordinate EV test drives for Truro residents under the direction of Recharge MA.

On June 3, 2023, Recharge MA will be offering a Cape-wide event in Hyannis that will provide Truro residents an opportunity to <do what at the event? List or summarize> The CAC will be asking the Outer Cape Climate Committees to promote this event in Orleans, Eastham, Truro, and Provincetown.

The CAC would like Truro to be a sponsor to this event which requires the CAC to submit a pledge of support (**attached**) and that the town logo can be used online for this

?just the event or for the website? Therefore, **the CAC requests that the <Select Board? Town Manager?> approve our request for Truro to be a sponsor.**

We believe that the benefits to Truro are:

- Educating and, therefore, encouraging Truro's vehicles to consider transitioning to EVs
- Reducing greenhouse gas emissions in Truro
- Actively demonstrates Truro's commitment and leadership to addressing the impacts of climate change

For further information on Recharge MA, please see: <https://www.recharge-massachusetts.org/>

For information on the Recharge MA pledge, please see: <https://www.recharge-massachusetts.org/#pledge> and <https://survey.zohopublic.com/zs/3cCzEu>

For information about the June 2023 event in Hyannis, please see: <https://www.recharge-massachusetts.org/cape-cod/>

The CAC thanks you for your support!