

DRAFT

Climate Action Committee

Meeting Minutes

January 5, 2023

Present: Carol Harris, Rebecca Bruyn, Lili Flanders, Fred Gaechter, Georgia Neill, Jarrod Cabral

MINUTES from 12/22/22 meeting:

Approved with minor revision. Carol will submit.

TOWN BUDGET:

Jarrod updated us on projected capital needs and anticipated budgets for the coming five years. He pointed out a new “grants” column, to track grants awarded for town projects. He also mentioned that CAC will have access to information re town vehicles.

TRURO TALKS:

Carol will follow up on recent town projects that address climate change to create content for Feb. TT article.

CAC REPORT for ANNUAL TOWN REPORT:

Draft was reviewed and edits/additions were suggested. Carol will share revised draft again before submitting.

NEW BUILDING CODES:

Lili has been in touch with Fran Schofield of 5Cs, with whom she shared CAC questions about the codes. According to Fran, DOER is putting together information sessions that will hopefully be available in February.

REQUEST TO SB FOR SUPPORT RECHARGE MA:

Carol sent out requests, but has not heard back. She'll follow up.

UPDATE ON 2024 CAC BUDGET:

In progress. Carol will continue working on it.

UPDATE ON EDUCATION & OUTREACH:

Rebecca, Georgia and Lili shared updates on final plans for the January 28th “Electrify Your Home” seminar at the library. Rebecca asked that all CAC members reach out via email to invite local family and friends to the event.

Lili shared that Fran offered support for Truro to have a web page on the 5Cs collaborative website. Carol thought permission from the town might be needed. It was agreed to pursue it at a later date.

PROPOSAL ON MICROGRIDS:

Bob Higgins and Lili continue to do research. Lili shared that the MA Climate Change Assessment for 2022 put damage to electric transmission and utility distribution due to heat stress and extreme weather events as a top infrastructure concern for the Cape and Islands.

UPDATE ON SEPTIC IN FLOOD ZONES:

After a conversation with Emily Beeb, Fred decided it was not necessary to send a letter to departments re the dangers of septic systems near flood zones; Health & Conservation has this covered.

DISCUSS 2023 MEETING STRUCTURE:

Discussed workload, sustainability, frequency and duration of meetings, and naming a vice chair.

ACTIONS: We will have a short meeting on 1/16/23 and then begin a trial period of monthly 2-hour meetings on the third Thursday of each month.

Lili accepted the position of vice chair.

UPDATES ON ON-GOING ACTIONS:

Carol shared that she had sent Brian Boyle an updated draft of the WGA proposal, as per Darrin Tangeman's input and is awaiting Brian's response.

We discussed the need for education of town depts. regarding climate action and implementation of WGA. Fred suggested sending out a survey to depts. before conversations/education begin. All agreed to that approach and to planning those seminars after Town Meeting.

MILL POND PROJECT:

Fred shared his reservations about an open breach on Mill Pond Rd., in terms of possible erosion to surrounding properties during waster surges. We discussed pros and cons of culverts vs. open breach and Carol suggested we might organize a CAC library seminar about the project in the fall.

NEXT MEETING: January 19 at 10:30 a.m.

ADJOURNED: 12:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted
Lili Flanders