

# Select Board Climate Action Committee Minutes

June 28, 2021, 6:00 pm.

Meeting held remotely on Zoom due to COVID-19

SBCAC Members (in attendance noted by Y/N)

Heather Hamilton, Co-Chair	Y	James Carr	N	Alan Leviton	Y	Kathleen Scanlon	Y
Werner Lohe, Co-Chair	Y	David Gladstone	Y	David Pearlman	N	Don Weitzman	Y
Dan Bennett	N	Dr. Swannie Jett	Y	Linda Olson Pehlke	Y	(vacancy)	~
Michael Berger	N			Deborah Rivers	Y		

Staff: Thomas Barrasso

No Guests were in attendance.

After making sure that Committee members could fully participate in the remote meeting, Werner Lohe opened the meeting and Welcomed Select Board Chairman Heather Hamilton to the SBCAC.

Heather Hamilton: Climate is the most important issue facing the Town. I am Happy to Serve.

## **Minutes**

The SBCAC VOTED by roll call vote to approve the meeting minutes would (in favor: WL, AL, DR, LOP, KS, DW; abstained: HH).

**Strategic Climate Action Plan (Or “Climate Crisis Action Plan, “per WA37???)**- Update and Discussion by Tom Barasso.

TB: Spoke of Having Internal meetings with Department Heads. Hazard mitigation, grants and an overall plan for the Town. Would like to bring the Hazard mitigation (which is 15 years old) and the Climate Action together to have the Strategic plan be a subset of both.

- Reducing Municipal 20% target (mandated under green communities)
- Electrification Municipal Solar
- Residential Geo Thermal
- Storm water
- Heat/Cold weather adaptation.

Don Weitzman: Asked about planning a Road Map for process of developing a Strategic Plan, what role do you see involving the public?

Thomas Barrasso: No plan can be developed without public participation. Need to form working groups and have Public sessions.

Linda Pehlke spoke of Merging – need to include vulnerability assets and urban plan. Roll into Strategic Plan.

- Shift to active and Electrified Public Transportation
- Need to be more supportive of Transportation more biking and walking paths

Deborah Rivers: Vulnerability assessment done in collaboration with Northeastern University and MAPC should be considered. We should not ignore the Open Space Plan. We need to implement it by making Actions Items into actions.

David Gladstone: Spoke on the Business perspective – and the need to keep in mind the Business needs – and the economic needs for businesses especially parking.

Pierce School, was discussed by Committee members

- Need to be educating looking a embodied carbon should be a priority
- Need to be in on all initial talks - get to the table before negotiating starts
- Need to look at all options
- The Town needs to lead by example
- Embedded energy is a new field

Heather Hamilton explained that Driscoll got more 40 % Open space when torn down so many things to take into consideration. Pierce school is a tight site. It will be at least a \$200.00 million dollar project.

Debt exclusion override within the next five years for the 5 Fire stations will have to be addressed and will have to look into sustainability

The Committee discussed the PACE program. Alan and Werner agreed the only place to use PACE would be True Commercial properties, and that the hardest part would be finding the properties.

David Gladstone working on PILOT programs going through the process identifying what some of the best practices are and hoping to roll something out down the line. Its all being investigated at the moment on approaching Management Companies and Condo Boards.

The Board suggested that Thomas Barrasso come back to the Committee with a proposal for 2-3 priorities for this Committee and /or working team.

### **Membership of SBCAC and Collins Center recommendation “reduced in size and reorganized”**

Werner Lohe stated that David Lescohier has resigned from the committee and James Carr from the Planning Board is resigning as of September that would leave vacancies. The people here who show up are loyal. 8 out of 15 members needs to be addressed.

Committee reaction to Collins report: While the Committee has enthusiastically endorsed nearly all of the Collins Report recommendations, we did disagree with the suggestion that the Committee should not play a policy role. However the SBCAC is reconstituted, we expect it will continue to have a strong role in setting Climate policy for the Town.

Kathleen Scanlon, asked? Where, has this Committee been most successful? FFF? Where have we made the most impact? What does Tom need from us?

Thomas Barrasso stated that the Committees familiarity with the Town and the community the need to reach contacts is most important to him.

The committee felt that it needs Redefinition and re-explanation of the purpose of the committee and function.

Reduce and redefine the committee  
Need to prioritize

Next meeting on July 26, 2021

The Meeting was adjourned at 7:25.