

ENERGY AND SUSTAINABILITY MINUTES  
April 28, 2022

Meeting called to order at 7:02 pm

Attending: Present: Andrea Chasen, Minoo Tehrani, David Miller, Kevin Shea, Steve Marantz.

Absent: Michael Massie

Guests: Corrin Meise-Munns, Bryanna Bay, Kirsten Zamirowski

1. Opening of Meeting: Andrea read the rules allowing for public meetings to continue to be held by zoom, pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021.

2. Discussion of minutes from January 24, 2022 and March 10, 2022. Andrea Chasen made a motion to accept the minutes from January 24, 2022, David Miller 2nd. All in favor. Kevin Shea made a motion to accept the minutes from March 10, 2022, David Miller 2nd. All in favor 4, Steve Marantz abstained.

3. Presentation of MVP Action Grant Proposal: Corrin asked for a letter of support and gave a summary of the grant application. Update to 2004 Longmeadow Long Range Plan with a sustainability and climate change focus. There are 2 unique points: climate mitigation and resilience. It would engage senior citizens, and include proactive implementation by looking at our by-laws to identify barriers to update the goals. The planning process, engagement, and municipal operations would be revamped. The budget is \$293955 but is supplemented by all in kind matches (labor). This is a 2 year request and will find out in the Fall.

Questions about the presentation:

*Minoo asked: Nothing was implemented from our 2004 plan, so it's a waste to hire a consultant, we are professionals and we can do it ourselves. Andrea addressed her comment by saying that in 2004 the town was led by a whole different set of town employees and the consultant is being paid to also implement the changes, not just suggest them.*

*Minoo asked: Shouldn't we wait until after the election when others will be in charge? No, the grant is due Thursday.*

Motion was made by Steve Marantz, and seconded by Andrea, to have Andrea sign a letter of support for the town's application for the MVP Action grant.

Voting in favor: Steve Marantz, Kevin Shea, Andrea Chasen and Dave Miller. Voting against: Minoo Tehrani

4. Presentation by Bryanna Bay (student of Minoo)- Combating Climate Change in Vancouver: In Vancouver carbon emissions are highest due to transportation so Canada adopted a carbon emission tax but with incentives for emission reductions. Questions about the presentation:

*David Miller asked: How does the government decide the carbon tax? The tax is collected through gas/oil/diesel purchases. There are fines if buildings are not reducing their carbon emissions. Who taxes? Canada or local authorities? It's a Canadian tax.*

*Corrin asked: How does the city encourage more walking and biking? Is there an app? There is no app but there are maps that designate which paths are easy to hard. How does the city give access to healthy foods? The city supports their farmers.*

5. Earth Day Report- Earth Day clean up was April 10th. The volunteers collected 2 tons of trash and 800 pounds of recycling.

6. Food Waste Workshop: Liz Bone worked with Recyclingworks Abbey Massero to give a presentation to businesses in town about the upcoming food waste ban. Only 3 businesses attended after multiple emails going out as reminders. One business asked to not receive any more emails! We need to promote the food waste ban as the businesses will need to be in compliance starting Nov 1, 2022.

7. New business:

Geothermal informational meeting: Eversource will provide a presentation of the geothermal pilot project. The actual date to be determined.

8. Other matters and comments: David Miller commented that Longmeadow needs to promote MASSAVES to our residents. Perhaps put a flyer in the next water bill. Corrin commented that we ask MASSAVES what they find works best to promote them. Andrea suggested that committee members develop some ideas for how to promote home energy audits and discuss the ideas at the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned: 8:14pm, All in favor.

Respectfully submitted:  
Liz Bone