

CETF 5/23/22

4-5:30pm, Zoom

1. Call to order: 4:02PM
2. Attendance: Jen Crandall, Ruth Poland, Tobin Peacock, Norm Burdzel, Brian Booher, Kristen is unable to attend, Margaret Jeffry (4:30)
3. Approval of [Minutes from 5/9/22](#) (V): Jen moves to approve minutes, Norm seconds. All in favor (Jen, Norm, Brian, Ruth, Tobin)
4. Adoption of Agenda (V): (modification: discuss COA class) Tobin moves to approve the agenda as amended. Norm seconds. All in favor (Jen, Norm, Brian, Ruth, Tobin)
5. Public Comment? none
6. Regular Business--
 - A. Quick Updates: (~15min)
 - i. Council presentation was nice but quiet - everyone seemed pleased with update and what we have done. Intended to get some public support for SC position. Not many people there so perhaps we need to do more outreach. Do we want to put out an Op Ed? **Jen** will do it with some input from Ruth. Invite folks to the COA class presentations & June 4th table to talk about CAP ideas?
 - ii. Official co-sponsor for COA presentation: May 31 at Town Hall. Ruth will be there and as many of us as possible should attend. There will be lots of good information shared that we will want to work from. Jen moves, Ruth seconds, all in favor (Jen, Norm, Brian, Ruth, Tobin). Tobin: share the event invite to friends and family. Laura sent an invite out and it is now public.
 - iii. Energy Benchmarking & ICLEI - ACTT is contacting them to set up a regional account. We believe the cost will be \$833/town, which we can certainly manage in our budget. Brian moves that we spend \$833 a year to contribute to a regional subscription to ICLEE. Jen seconds. All in favor (Jen, Norm, Brian, Ruth, Tobin).
 - iv. Next steps for Sust. Coord. Position posting? How can we help? Ruth emailed Kevin and he would like some help looking over the job description and would like some of us to be on hiring committee.
 - v. Update on the Comprehensive Planning Committee's work (Kristin) skip as Kristen can't be here tonight
 - B. Draft REC Recommendations to Council idea (Tobin & Brian) Great. Gives a clear understanding of RECs. It should be made clearer that we prefer local generation (and retiring the RECs) over purchasing RECs but that RECs should be purchased if we can't do that. Brian: we need to be very specific in the language about RECs even if we have local generation. Laura: the explanation is great. The sticking point might be what we say for a recommendation. Perhaps have a clear, prioritized list of recommendations. The task force needs to determine our priorities and list them. Ruth: that is the helpful context I was trying to get across. Norm: our goal is reducing ghg. How it is done is really up to the town, especially if it

saves money. Ruth: I think the list Laura gave is the way we want to go. Norm: the lab is going with CES and is saving money. Brian: we made a motion for the Town Manager to look into this. Did it happen? Ruth: Erin had forgotten to do that, but Ruth and Spencer made the same recommendation a year ago and someone on the council was concerned at the time so it didn't happen. This letter may help persuade them. Margaret: is it too late to get on the same deal with CES? Ruth: we do have a contract with another provider with an end date. Laura: being able to outline the pros and cons and cost/benefit of these different options would be helpful. The town manager and/or SC could investigate this. Our priorities could be adjusted on an ongoing basis. Brain: could someone give pros of local generation? Laura: control, town owned financial investment. Local also implies local ownership. Naomi has also been involved in this stuff. Naomi: more resilient infrastructure. More local production reduces loss in transmission and loss in outages. Someone may be buying the RECs but without the momentum of the local production you wouldn't be moving things forward. Ruth: adding the cost benefit analysis could be helpful. Does ACTT have anything like that? Or a list of pros and cons? Tobin: does Jax have a priority list? Norm: no we looked at a bunch and chose the best financial choice. Laura: COA went from carbon neutral to fossil fuel free by continuing to build out with green energy projects while still buying RECs. Also has a resource that compares the pros and cons of green energy that could be useful. Brian: Higgins pit has lots of benefits, but our goal of reducing ghg needs to be front and center. Tobin: push back on that. Concerned that we would be putting on blinders if we look only at RECs and need to consider bigger picture. Margaret: are we just talking about resiliency and local control or are we also talking about reducing ghg gas? 3 actual benefits : resiliency, local control, and reduction in ghg. Naomi: parallel goals. In order to electrify everything we need a more robust grid. Ruth: Brain and Tobin, what next? Tobin: Kevin said that this doc would be helpful if we go with Higgins Pit. A sustainability coordinator will have to be the one to dig in for the town and make the ultimate decision. Kevin won't have time to prioritize this right now. Ruth: once we get the list of priorities we should share this with the Council and the town manager. Brian: should Tobin and I take a stab at that? Laura will send out the COA document and we should get Beth Woolfolk to give us information about cost and pros and cons. Tobin and Brian will put the letter into context and Ruth will encourage Erin to reach out to Kevin to contact CES. Thank you for putting together this educational piece for the council.

C. CAP Feedback (?) Links: [CAP v.2](#) (full draft) & [CAP v.2 \(for stakeholder feedback\)](#) Added link to new document.

- i. Final comments from Laura? Brian: reminder that we should get to the low hanging fruit first, so prioritizing this list is important. Laura: presenting a timeline/implementation plan will be helpful for the Town Council/ manager to find that low hanging fruit and make progress. Most of these items need to start happening

now. Ruth: suggestion to SC that first job will be to create a Gantt Chart to show the road map of the CAP.

- ii. [CRP Grant](#) review - can we confirm that we would like to spend the education & EV money on efforts facilitated by ACTT? The foci of the grant are: Develop a climate ambassadors program to build capacity for the community and a curriculum that anyone could use. 2 Climate Action outreach and education. 3 building efficiencies and electrification. 4. ?? 5 EV chargers; 3-4 charges will be placed around town. Where? Can we say YES to ACTT to enact what is in the grant to all 3 towns at once? Laura: I will also be working with ACTT on the grant this summer. Don't forget to keep the task force connected with all of the people who will be working on this stuff: ACTT, Town manager, CETF, Liz with outreach etc. Margaret moves to have ACTT move forward on the implementation of this grant with Bar Harbor being the financial coordinator. Tobin seconded. All approved (Jen, Norm, Brian, Ruth, Tobin, Margaret)
- iii. EV location brainstorming & who to talk to? How/when can we select these? Who needs to be in on this discussion?
- iv. For the future; we should plan to reapply in the fall for an individual town grant. Let's start thinking about what we want to fund!
 - D. Continue reviewing the [Gantt Chart from CAP v.1](#) - what have we accomplished? What are we behind on? What should our next action steps be?
 - i. Record a set of "To Do" items for the CETF and the New Sustainability Coordinator for their first few weeks.
 - 1. Review & assign "to do" list.
 - 2. Agenda items for next meeting? Norm: we need to write a letter to State to install the DC chargers that the State got a grant for and are still not installed.
 - 3. Event reminders:
 - A. June 4th "Climate Solutions Fair" by ACTT. Tabling by our committee from 10-12:30. Any volunteers? Survey visitors?
 - B. Public presentation of each project on May 31st at 6:30pm. Probably in the Municipal Building auditorium.
 - C. Town Meeting - June 7th
 - D. Special Elections - June 14th
 - 1. Adjournment: Jen moves to adjourn, Tobin seconds. All approve: Jen, Norm, Brian, Ruth, Tobin, Margaret, 5:32PM