

CETF 11/28/22

4-5:30pm, Town Hall, Chamber

1. Call to order: 4:06pm
2. Attendance: Tobin Peacock, Jen Crandall, Ruth Poland, Laura Berry, Norm Burdzel, Kaitlyn Burke, Brian is out of the country, Joe Minutolu, Margaret running late(4:11), no Linneah,
3. Approval of Minutes from [11/14/22](#) (Vote): Norm approves the minutes, To bin seconds, all in favor.
4. Adoption of Agenda (Vote): Laura would like to add an update on community outreach events under B. v. Moves to adopt agenda as amended, Joe seconds. All in favor.
5. Public Comment? Carrie Jones: here to listen.
6. Regular Business–
 - A. Quick Updates?
 - B. Laura's updates (~20min)
 - i. EV charger locations– in ref to CRP grant changers. Walked around at locations identified: there are places where we could have 3 charger installations. Ball field and YMCA locations would serve local people, but there are still some questions about whether or not the chargers would be used for Y customers or town folks, and if there is a charge. Also an easy place for a pole mounted charger behind police station. Talked with the other towns involved in the grant and it makes most sense to put out 1 RFP for procurement. The other towns are not as far along as BH. There is a dance between the 3 towns to put out an RFP and planning the installations. Need to coordinate with the other towns. Norm: concern about the Y location because it will seem like it is only for Y members. Laura: the Y says they would make it available to the public/ residents. At the ball field it would be a paid for charger, at least in the summer. At the Y it would be free for locals. Ruth: do you want us to prioritize the 3 locations, and/or add any other sites like Town Hill? Margaret: where are the other chargers. Laura: near Agamont Park, publicly accessible ones at Abby Museum and COA. Tobin: next time we should look into parking meter combined charger infrastructure. Norm: we should charge for the electricity so we aren't subsidizing the wealthy. Margaret: we should also add a fee so that we can generate money to put more chargers in and maintain.
 - ii. Competitive Energy Solutions (CES) update–continuing to work with them. They have accessed our Versant data and are looking for price points have the credits from our solar panels be more efficiently distributed. The monetary benefit of the Higgins Pit array due to tariff rate vs kwh rate, we might have more monetary credit than the electric costs. But we would need more electricity use than we currently do to make that a reality. Installing

chargers that we "subsidize" would be OK as it would increase our electricity use.

- iii. Website/public outreach- Laura has gained access to website created by COA students. Town website is being redone by Maya and Steve. Laura has been in touch with Maya about having a sustainability page as well as a page for the task force. We need to make sure that the Town website is a place that people are going to go to. What do we think would be useful for information on a website for climate information. Tobin: resources for our citizens. Something that calls people to the page. Updates about what we are doing in the town for sustainability. Funnel for us to hear from the community. Joe: links to how to get grants etc., maybe testimonials from folks who have gone through the process to improve their ghg emissions. Norm: a forum for people to have conversations. Laura: tailored info for residents, business owners and visitors. You don't want to have to moderate a lot of conversations. Norm: I have been creating a comparison for heat pumps. We need to have those tools on the website. Laura: green guide. Joe: when someone applies for a building permit there is an opportunity to direct folks to more green solutions. Laura: new buildings vs old too.
- iv. Thoughts on town budget recommendations the CETF can support-Laura and Kevin will do the nitty gritty work. There is \$28k available. We will let Laura know what the priorities are and she will fit it into the budget. We have kind of already had these conversations, but we need to narrow it down and get specific. Especially prioritize projects that can also get external funding through grants. But we can expect to put up 5% matching funds. Tobin: can you access private funding or gifts? Joe: the Council would have to approve, but yes. Laura: we can't solicit private funds and we shouldn't budget them in. Another funding source is a green revolving fund. Tobin: is there anything right now that we could leverage our funds for? Laura: the second CRP grant that we applied for will not cover the cost of the project and the \$ in our budget could supplement that work. Norm: we could also use the money for more chargers. Ruth: good use of that money would be to find a grant that requires matching funds. Tobin: also use it for something that qualifies for rebates. Joe: what are we going to have to pony up as a Town to get to our goals by 2030? Ask the Town for incremental increases to get there rather than one big request.
- v. Other...

C. Budget Recommendations next steps...(~40)

- i. Topics for discussion:
 - 1. *The more specific we can be about recommendations the more likely a project gets funded.

2. Do we want the Town to have a separate sustainability budget?
3. Review Gantt chart for projects - can we still use this as a guide to our progression of projects? How should we add community-scale projects to it?
4. Create a document with a consolidated list of what projects we want to do, what have been done and what is in process (?).

ii. Priorities listed from last time:

Task	Budget implications
EfficiencyME & EPA program audit of Wastewater Treatment plant	Fund any improvements that are found to be possible.
Identify where fuel oil #2 can be replaced by biodiesel in the town's operations (don't want to void warranties, etc). Get quotes for biodiesel to compare.	Fund likely increase in cost of converting to biodiesel.
Identify new locations for good solar farms on town properties. Lots of work to prep a project	Fund new solar projects
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and clarify funding for private sustainability projects (Naomi at ACTT has done a lot of this already) • Develop town funding options for residents' projects, such as ARPA funding match or revolving Green fund? • Public education events on how to finance residential or small business sustainability projects. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fund staff time & PR. • Fund Green Fund or Eff.ME funds-matching program
Research and identify improvements to public transportation infrastructure (we have discussed getting a consulting firm to do some work on this for us)	Funding for consultants to create a comprehensive transportation plan for the island (work with other towns, ANP, etc. too!)
E-bike patrol?	

D. Public Outreach: (~20min)

- i. How can we educate the public locally about sustainability initiatives, our work, and funding opportunities? (Norm)
- ii. How can we share our work with other towns and organizations with similar goals and challenges? How can we learn from others on a similar path as well? (Tobin) Ruth: A monthly update on the new website might do that. Laura: we have public outreach events upcoming. It is a good place to work with other towns. Tobin: to clarify, we have

lots of resources. How can we help other towns in the State to spread the wealth?
Laura: spoke with Maine Municipal Association's energy and sustainability coordinator.
Would like to pull together a State-wide group of all the folks in the State who are doing this work to share resources and information.

7. Closing
 - A. Review & assign "to do" list.
 - i. Present recommendations to Kevin & on Town Budget?
Present reasoning for our recommendations to the Town Council?
 - B. Meeting Schedule for the next month or two...
 - i. Suggestion: skip the 26th, so just one meeting in Dec (the 12th) and start up on 2 meetings a month again in Jan. All in favor!!
 - C. Next agenda items: Michelle G would like to come to the next meeting. Also add Bri from ACCT to join as well.
8. Adjournment: Tobin moves to adjourn and Margaret seconds. All in favor at 5:35PM.

"To Do" List:

- Ideas for where to put the extra gel batteries from GEM vehicles?
- Planning a public "Listening Session" on CAP 2.0 with ACTT?
 - 'World Cafe' table during Comp Plan session later this year?