



## Harvard Climate Initiative Committee

### Meeting Minutes of 2/24/22

The meeting convened at 7:35 pm on Zoom

Members: Present: Jefferson Burson, Ellen Sachs Leicher, Adam Meier, Deborah O'Rourke  
Brian Smith joined at 8:25pm

Staff Present: N/A

Guest: N/A

#### 1 – Approval of Minutes of the meeting of February 10, 2022

Ellen motioned to accept the meeting minutes from February 10, 2022. Adam seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous to approve the minutes.

#### 2 – Updates

##### Climate Action Plan:

- Buildings & Energy: Ellen reports that Brian is scheduling follow-up meeting to the initial HEAC discussion to finalize goals and actions
  - o Ellen contacted the School Committee: HCIC is on the agenda for 3/14.
  - o There was a discussion on the importance of expanding beyond energy to include healthy materials, indoor air quality, and more.
  - o ULI Building Decarbonization Principles shared as a resource  
[https://knowledge.uli.org/-/media/files/research-reports/2020/decarbonizing-the-built-environment\\_10-principles.pdf?rev=d97633017bf74893b4b3c65082132c0c&hash=536E299A2AA8AE5DFB643DACAD44742D](https://knowledge.uli.org/-/media/files/research-reports/2020/decarbonizing-the-built-environment_10-principles.pdf?rev=d97633017bf74893b4b3c65082132c0c&hash=536E299A2AA8AE5DFB643DACAD44742D)
- Transportation: Jefferson reports reaching out to Chris Ryan and that the Transportation Action Committee does not have their next meeting scheduled, but HCIC is in the works to be on the agenda.
- Natural Resources: Jefferson reports that we are on the Planning Board's agenda for meeting scheduled 3/7. Jaye reports that she has emailed Liz Allard to get on Conservation Committee agenda for meeting scheduled on 3/3. Jefferson will prepare

and send information packet to Jaye by Monday, 2/28. Adam to email Lucy to determine whether Adam or Lucy will attend in addition to Jaye.

- Agriculture and Preparedness:
  - o Jefferson reports that he has reached out to Christiane and Sharon for updates on Ag and Preparedness, respectively, and has not yet received an update.
  - o Preparedness: Ellen reports that Sharon and Lucy have coordinated, but unclear on status.
- CAP: Ellen reports making edits to background statement in the CAP and requests review and edits

#### Outreach Activities:

Ellen reports that she has talked with Stu Sklar, Select Board, and asked whether we should present to them during late March, early April. Jefferson: What's our goal? Ellen: providing an update on what we are doing, provide more visibility, and possibly request money for Earth Day event.

- Deborah reports: Harvard Press column will shift to once every 3 weeks. Continuing to send information via Send-Pulse. Green Team: Bromfield invasive plant removal will begin in March with planting scheduled for April (Spring Break). Video to be produced by students and Harvard Press planning feature piece. Ellen reports that she is working with students on grant applications to Garden Club (\$500 requested), PTO (\$1,000 requested), Harvard Schools Trust (1,500 requested). Garden Club – fast turnaround. PTO – fast turnaround. Harvard Schools Trust – turn around by the next meeting following application submission.
- Ellen reports that Harvard Energize is up to 90-families, which is relatively stagnant.
- Deborah: EV101 event scheduled for March 29, 7pm.
- Harvard's Earth Day Show-and-Tell: Deborah reports planning event for 4/30, with 5/1 rain date 11-5pm. Multiple drop-in locations where hosts can show-and-tell about sustainable living accomplishments. EVs, solar arrays, gardens, air/ground-source heat pumps, etc. Soliciting volunteers to be hosts. General Store will demonstrate single burner induction stove. They offered their space for other demonstrations or information such as a worm compost/vermiculture demonstration. (Deborah has a person who will present this.) Ellen has written appeal to attract people and will share with the group. There was a discussion on general strategies for marketing and scope of event.
- HES Solar Celebration: Ellen reports that Jamie Eldridge and Dan Sena were able to get this to happen and both are attending.

#### Data Gathering:

- Ellen reports that David Faye gathered data on solar installs in town from NGrid. May ask for his help with other data.
- NC4: Ellen reports that the group wants participants to sign MOU and Ellen is unable to sign. Will bring to Select Board. Topics are mostly legislative. HCIC participation is unclear as no one can commit to their meetings every month.

Other updates:

- Updated stretch code is drafted and out for comment
  - Ellen reports on 2 State grant applications: Two applications submitted for culverts and bylaw review. Ellen was asked to meet with regional state representative who will provide feedback and decide if we move to the next step to submit an application.
- 3 – Other Business
- Jaye: MA Association of Conservation Commissions conference coming up. 3 ConComm members, including Jaye, are attending and Jaye will attend climate-related sessions
  - Environmental Justice: Jaye raised this as an important topic for future discussion

The next HCIC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 10 at 7:30PM.

Adjourned: 8:35 pm