



Harvard Climate Initiative Committee

Meeting Minutes of April 13, 2023

The meeting convened at 7:05 pm on Zoom

Members: Present: Jefferson Burson, Ellen Sachs Leicher, Deborah O'Rourke, Christiane Turnheim, Janet Waldron, Lucy Wallace, Brian Smith, Rich Marcello

Staff Present: Pat Natoli

1 – Approval of Minutes of 3-30-23 - Minutes of 3/30 approved w/out amendment

2- Events and Outreach - Earth Day

- Signs distributed this week to hosts
- Interactive map almost done
- Great coverage by Harvard Press in the Events Section and paid for ad
- Newsletter and EventBrite reminders going out multiple times
- Need to add NWRA to our info
- Who's doing what:
 - Jaye - will help with setup on Saturday morning, 10am at HES
 - Ellen and Deb - covering booth and roving as needed
 - Lucy - will be at booth 11am - 4pm (Doing Black Earth Sign ups) Also sharing table w/ Nashua River Watershed
 - Rich - will help setup projection at noon and will also have his EV at petting zoo from 1:30 on
 - Pat - will bring cones, stakes, and caution tape on Friday after work around 5pm
 - Christiane will be at farm stand
 - Sharon will coordinate presentation of speaker at 1:00
 - Jefferson and Brian are both away / out of town
 - Still finalizing plans for volunteers
 - Those at HES Hub may need to be asked to go to one of the homes
 - Vendors/community organizations will assigned to locations on the lawn w/ numbered signs
 - Road where EVs are will be closed off
 - Close to 60 people registered
 - Jefferson will do a facebook post for the event

- Weather: if we postpone due to weather, we would send out an email by 8 am
- Everyone on the committee should be telling friends, etc. about the event and get folks to register
- Map - in case of low bandwidth, we could print out a big map at HES for people to take a picture of

Flag Project – Flags for those who accomplish a climate goal on HarvardEnergize and put up a picture or testimonials. Grant was approved from North Central Community Foundation for \$1500

3 – Grants

- MVP - 2 applications going in
- Grant #1 property purchase from Carlson. We have written a letter in support and approved the letter as drafted to include in the application
- Grant #2 - \$50-70K. Help ConCom w/ their wetland bylaw funding for outreach for future town meeting vote. Bylaw for Planning Board, help w/ OSRD bylaw review and outreach/education and for drafting update to erosion control bylaw to include tree removal
- Worcester metropolitan area - \$1m from IRA pretty focused on plan writing.
- MRPC - Staci asked for help with grant identification and grant writing. We received approval in the second round of requests to MRPC
- Note: Maura Healey announcement - money set aside for rural towns with some focus on climate to help with grant identification and assistance.

4 – Other

- Specialized Stretch Code - Ellen and Brian interviewed a civil engineer from Maynard who is sustainability coordination for Weston who can do a presentation on what the new code means. We'll invite her to speak to us, PB, Permanent Bldg Committee, Building Inspector, HEAC - possibly in May. Agreed to include Select Board as it would be a bylaw change and take majority vote if Select Board presents it.
- OSRD Bylaw change is not as big of a re-write as the early draft from over a year ago. It amends the existing bylaw already in place. Has been sent out by Ellen and includes climate specs, density changes, etc. Everyone should read it and send comments to Ellen only, we'll talk about it at the HCIC next meeting. All comments will be combined and sent out to everyone by 4/24/25. Comments to Ellen by 4/24.
- Ellen goes back to Select Board on 5/16 quarterly update. We could report on implementation, earth day, grant writing, specialized stretch code, results of tax survey
- Lorrie Trahan Planning Council NC4. Invited towns to participate and Ellen asked if anyone could attend. Members are interested in MOU. Ellen will send out
- Town Meeting; Do we want to do a table? It would be in front of Cronin Auditorium, not a lot of space. What would we actually do - just a month after Earth Day? Annual report from Town has HCIC page.
- Move to adjourn approved at 8:25 pm