



Harvard Climate Initiative Committee

Meeting Minutes of July 14, 2022

The meeting convened at 7:35 pm on Zoom

Members: Present: Jefferson Burson, Ellen Sachs Leicher, Sharon McCarthy, Deborah O'Rourke, Lucy Wallace, Brian Smith, Paul Green

Staff Present: Pat Natoli

Guest: Kara Minar, Select Board

1 – Approval of Minutes of June 9, 2022. Minutes were unanimously approved.

2 – Outreach Report

Deborah O'Rourke gave an update on several outreach activities:

- Mini farmers market of small farmers/homesteaders will take place in the fall and will be planned to be the same time as the Bromfield Green Team Native Garden event. October 1 was recommended but Special Town Meeting is planned so another date will be needed
- Lions Fall Festival – offered HCIC a booth. Will discuss CAP, continue to promote HarvardEnergize, ask Green Team to join us. Maybe participate in some games as HCIC
- CAP public meeting planned for end of August. Need to confirm a date and time
- Idea for showing some films and discussions in the winter. Looking for film ideas.
- Sahara Suliman, Bromfield Senior will be doing her community service project with us. Will do some research, writing, etc.
- Consider This Piece about CAP – hoping for August

3 – Plan Development

Jefferson Burson gave an update on the Climate Action Plan:

- Three areas left to be completed:
 - Transportation – need to swing back to TAC and then have stakeholders meeting

- Preparedness – meeting scheduled for 7/20. Includes info from Hazard Plan that was just developed
- AG – stakeholders did not come to AG commission meeting. Jefferson will follow-up with Christiane to do it in writing instead of meeting
- Jefferson, Lucy and Ellen to do editing and preparation of first full draft to share with HCIC in August and use for Public Meeting at the end of August
- Will share with Select Board after Public Meeting
- Need an implementation chapter. Who is the primary committees to implement sections of the CAP. Possible chart of who, what, when
- Discussed how to utilize this at the Town's All Boards meeting. How to get commitment from Admin, committees and boards to have a climate lens on their work. Consider including the environmental assessment process/questions be used as part of the implementation process recommendations.
- Discussion about the CAP vision and what we want to accomplish. What commitment we need to make sure we can accomplish what we set out. Should we relook at our vision statement.
- Discussion of top down v. bottoms up approach to get buy in and commitment to addressing climate in what the town does
- Discussion of grant writing and admin and how to be able to partake of the grant funds. Select Board is talking about a part time grant writer/administrator
- Looking at how to have FinCom address climate in their processes. (What seats are open and can we find someone who will take a climate change perspective)

4 – Quarterly Report to Select Board

Select Board has asked HCIC and HEAC to provide quarterly written reports to the them. Not sure of the timing and what the report will include. Only two committees that this has been requested from. Look at it as positive, as their interest in the work both committees are doing.

5- HEAC CCA Letter

HEAC is looking for HCIC endorsement of a letter sent to the Select Board re. role of HEAC in the upcoming selection of a new supplier for the CCA (Community Choice Aggregation) program. Letter reviewed and voted on. Unanimous support for HEAC letter.

Meeting Adjourned: 9:15 pm