

7/17/2020

TOWN CLERK

AEC Meeting Minutes:

2022 JAN 18 AM 7:57

Attendees: Lew Segall, Chair, Jim White, Marc Peterman, Matt Cooney, Wendell Cerne, Bernie Gardner, Susan Fontaine, Jessica Williams, Ted Flynn, Valerie Massard, Barbara Bartlett, Meg Aki.

Absent: Kevin Kingston, Matt Koenig, Lynn Smith

The meeting minutes from the June 2020 meeting were approved unanimously.

Meg Aki- MAPC joined to discuss resources available from them to help move net zero initiative along. Meg presented a slide show presentation from Feb 2020 SS meeting. Net Zero planning process was reviewed by all. MAPC supports 101 communities and towns within route 495. Resources available on web site. 3 key stages; recruit and support from community, Pursue commitment, Prioritize Holistic Planning and Gathering necessary Information.

Cambridge focus on all buildings and offset with carbon free energy. Other areas are Transportation, Waste, New construction in addition to Municipal and existing building as well as Carbon Offsets and Renewable energy.

GHG Inventory Frameworks addressed and cities and town use ICLEI as baseline measurement.

Matt asked if there were state resources available and Meg said yes state resources are available.

Framework uses guide put out by ICLEI into three work streams; checklist to define local characteristics, Local data collection (10-15 hours) into tools and Methodology template to assess carbon output. Excel based spreadsheet using emission factors and Inputs. Summary tables and charts are the output after the collection process is complete.

Co benefits of plan were shared. Wide range of choices from large and costly to small targeted plans with small investments. A lot more guidance to cities and towns is out in US so MAPC helps by making it easier to get to end goal with best practices etc.

Meg shared MAPC municipal net zero playbook with chapter focused on specific sectors. Lew asked about equity application and Meg shared that process with the group including who to include to focus on equitable distribution across the community. Inclusive of diverse backgrounds. Meg will send a link to what to include in a plan. That would include a timeline and resources for the plan.

Meg shared that MAPC can help with Data, Goals, and Plans.

Starting point is from 2017 data and forward including past initiatives and those to come going forward.

Susan asked about how to collect inventory data and Meg shared three primary data to get from the DPW to inventory. She will share recording of this with all of us.

Lew asked about Val's idea of co working with other communities and how would MAPC support that? Meg shared that there are advantages of a larger plan with several communities specifically with transportation like bike share and bus routes and there is only so much one community can do on its own. She did not know of any examples other than Beverly and Salem doing a combined plan.

Val shared she is co chair of South shore coalition and many towns do not have staff dedicated to work on these initiatives. There is a need for that expert to come in for entire south shore. Duxbury is primarily residential and half is conservation. She was unsure about working with other towns to enhance the opportunity vs alone. Meg shared that Duxbury could help other towns by joining forces particularly in the area of conservation. Val said that other towns do not have green space to work with. Working with Plymouth and others to come up with the best approach including the need for a local consultant. No budget money is available so need a grant for an in kind match. Volunteer time can be included with local match. Lew mentioned town meeting to generate net zero interest. Val said already approved in the Envision plan but budgets are tight and staff try to find in kind goal and use grants as means. Interest is there but COVID interfered with progress. Focus should be for September meeting to scope out plans. Meg said she is available to help and all were interesting in taking her up on that. Susan asked the time for collection of data and she said it would take 6-8 hours over a couple of months. Val asked if a letter to the director was needed and Meg said she would check. Aligns with what MAPC wants to do and she will take care of that.

Bernie and Wendell volunteered to work on the GHG inventory.

Additional initiatives of municipal aggregation, zoning and building codes/permitting, electric vehicles and outreach and education were discussed.

Val and Ted reiterated the issue that there is no budget money left for some of these initiatives at the present time. Val stressed the need to be patient.

Barbara noted that the town had not yet heard back on the Green Communities grant that could be used for charging stations.

Barbara said she had provided information to Jim for the potential LED proposal by ThinkLite, and the overall project was discussed. She also noted other high cost items were being addressed, such as the boiler in the library building.

Susan discussed hearings on offshore wind projects related to certain rules that reduce the profitability of turbines.

Respectfully submitted,

James White and Lew Segall