



**GREEN ADVISORY BOARD  
MINUTES  
JUNE 15, 2020  
5:30 PM  
\*VIRTUAL MEETING\***

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Eric Hudson, Dennis Loria, Cameren Cousins, Mary Smith

**ASSOCIATE MEMBER:** Mona Chandra

**RECORDING SECRETARY:** Kim Gorman

**MUNICIPAL PROPERTIES SUPERINTENDENT:** Andrea Ristine

**SELECTMEN LIAISON:** Peter Berry

**REGIONAL SCHOOL ENERGY ADVISOR:** Kate Crosby

**VISITORS:** Judith Aronstein, Jim Sydner-Grant, Bryan Cote (IT Dept.)

Link to documents numbered on this agenda: <http://doc.acton-ma.gov/dsweb/View/Collection-12439>

5:38 Mr. Hudson called the meeting to order at 5:38PM via a virtual meeting with no Board Members in physical attendance are using the via Zoom.us virtual meeting platform.

Mr. Hudson reported The Town of Acton in response to the COVID-19 (Corona Virus) is currently following the guidance from the Acton Board of Health, Massachusetts Department of Public Health and the CDC regarding the virus and steps communities can take to prevent the spread. The Town Hall and Memorial Library are closed to the public.

Mr. Hudson called roll attendance:

Mr. Hudson - present

Mr. Loria - present

Ms. Cousins - present

Ms. Smith - present

Ms. Chandra - present

House H.2849/S.1940 Future Resolution, Act for Utility Transition to Renewable Energy (050)

Ms. Smith moved to discuss this item first on the agenda. She reported she has reviewed the House Bill and gave the same opinion of her concerns regarding fossil fuels, renewable fuels, gas and heat pumps and the deadline dates.

Ms. Aronstein stated she has sent the Board information about the Bill and hoping to see a transition away from gas by 2050.

Board members discussed clarification of the House Bill and that a requirement or goal would be to have all residents change to an alternative fuel.

Board members stated they will review the House Bill again for the GAB to provide a letter of endorsement/recommendation to the Board of Selectmen (BOS).

Mr. Loria stated he will revise Ms. Smith's letter for the BOS, revise the language to review and vote on the letter at the next meeting.

Board members thanked Ms. Aronstein and Mr. Snyder-Grant for participating in the meeting and with their information given to help the Board.

#### Newton Energy Commission – Citizens Climate Acton Plan August 2019 (020)

Mr. Hudson moved to discuss.

Ms. Chandra reported due to the COVID19 issues a date was never confirmed. She has reached out to the Newton Energy Commission and a representative will attend the next GAB Zoom meeting.

6:30 Mr. Peter departed.

#### 2020 Green Communities Competitive Grant - Discussion Application Table (030)

Mr. Hudson moved to discuss.

Ms. Ristine reported the application has been completed and received to The Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources (DOER) and we are waiting for their decisions. Ms. Crosby received a couple questions from the Department of Energy Resources (DOER).

Ms. Crosby reported that DOER requested that the retro-commissioning at the Gates School be removed since it is slated for demolition.

#### Environmental Justice Letter Sign On (040)

Mr. Hudson moved to discuss.

Ms. Aronstein stated she had sent the letter in error.

Mr. Hudson removed the agenda item from business discussion.

#### Carbon Neutrality Initiative - Discussion – Scope of Services Outline (010)

Mr. Hudson moved to discuss.

Board members discussed trying different activities: work with a consultant, work with town personnel, International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI) tools, Clear Path data and create a job description for a part-time job posting and create a Request for Quotes (RFQ) criteria list for a Sustainability Consultant process request for funds.

Ms. Cousins stated she will review what other towns have created for job description postings and review the RFQ criteria.

Ms. Chandra stated with the Newton Energy Commission member coming to the meeting; their input will be a great help creating the RFQ criteria.

#### Minutes - March 9, 2020

Mr. Loria asked a question regarding Mr. Mangiaratti's statement that he will register more individuals to be able to use the tools and data from ICLEI. Ms. Ristine state she will contact Mr. Mangiaratti regarding if he was able to register more individuals. Approval of 3/9/20 minutes were tabled at the next meeting.

Next Meeting – July 13, 2020

- Carbon Neutrality Initiative – Scope of Services, Job Description letters, Outline
- Newton Energy Commission – Chairman (get ideas for Criteria list for RFQ)
- House H. 2849/S.1940 Future Resolution, Act for Utility Transition to Renewable Energy – more time to review from 6/15 meeting and possible vote at 7/13 mtg.
- Minutes – 03/9/2020 and 06/15/2020

7:20 Mr. Hudson moved to adjourn, Ms. Smith seconds. Mr. Hudson called roll:

Mr. Hudson - aye

Mr. Loria - aye

Ms. Cousins - aye

Ms. Smith - aye

Ms. Chandra - aye

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Eric Hudson

Chair



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**To Participate Remotely**

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

**From a computer**, please click on the link below to join the public meeting

Webinar: <https://zoom.us/j/96838509720>

or

**From a telephone**, 1-301-715-8592 **Webinar ID: 968 3850 9720**

Telephone users may dial \*9 to request to speak after joining the meeting. Computer and app users may use the “raise hand” feature to request to speak.

**I. Business**

- Carbon Neutrality Initiative - Discussion - Scope of Services Outline (010)
- Newton Energy Commission - Citizens Climate Acton Plan August 2019 (020)
- 2020 Green Communities Competitive Grant - Discussion Application Table (030)
- Environmental Justice Letter Sign On (040)
- House H.2849/S.1940 Future Resolution, Act for Utility Transition to Renewable Energy (050)

**II. Minutes March 9, 2020 Signature**

**Next meeting** July 13, 2020

**2020 Meeting Schedule** [link](#)

Additional materials for this agenda can be found here <http://doc.acton-ma.gov/dsweb/View/Collection-12439>

*The listed agenda items are those reasonably anticipated by the Chair. Not all items may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law. Reasonable accommodations for people with disabilities are available upon request. Include a description of the accommodation you will need, including as much detail as you can and include a way we can contact you if we*

*need more information. Please allow advance notice. Send an e-mail to [manager@actonma.gov](mailto:manager@actonma.gov) or call Town Manager's Office (978)929-6611*

*For more information about the Green Advisory Board contact [mpo@actonma.gov](mailto:mpo@actonma.gov) or 978-929-7744.*