



GREEN ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

MONDAY, JUNE 7, 2021

6:00 pm

VIRTUAL MEETING

Members Present: Dennis Loria, Mary Smith, Cameren Cousins

Associate Member: Erik Larson, Peter Berry

ABRSD Energy Manager: Kate Crosby

Sustainability Director: Andrea Becerra

Visitor: Debra Simes

Mr. Loria called the meeting to order at 6:06PM via a virtual meeting with no Board Members in physical attendance using Zoom.us virtual meeting platform. Mr. Loria 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.

Mr. Loria called roll attendance:

Mr. Loria - present

Ms. Cousins - present

Ms. Smith - present

Mr. Loria – present

I. Business

1. Sustainability updates/ CAP updates

Andrea provided an update on the Climate Action Plan (CAP) process: survey has been published, showed CAP flyer and received feedback and suggestions for circulation information about ways to participate in the CAP process, and provided an update on upcoming workshop

Kate C. provided an update on Resource Task Force working group that's supporting the CAP process; they presented at several classes to recruit students

Andrea notified about remaining funding in sustainability budget and asked GAB for their input on using funding for two different initiatives: one is to develop a coaching site to support them reduce their GHG emissions (i.e. electrification); and another is an EV fleets study, similar to one done in Concord, to identify vehicles to electrify. Andrea clarified that there are grants to support the electrification of fleets. Mary S. thinks if there are grants for fleet electrification, then using the funding for coaching probably makes the most sense; Dennis

believes in thinking about the best bang for our buck, a resource to help people make sustainable decisions makes sense; Cameren also agreed that coaching would be the best use of funding

Debra S. shared screen to walk GAB through draft of the Warrant Articles #13 & 14 on Regulating Fossil Fuel Infrastructure in New Construction; Debra also shared the following FAQ document via the chat:

<https://www.actonclimatecoalition.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/Building-With-Clean-Energy-Warrant-Articles-QA.pdf>

Peter B. suggested that the GAB should support this in the lead-up to Town Meeting; he noted that the Finance Committee did not support.

Eric H. mentions that if needed to have another meeting for GAB to demonstrate support they can; Eric H. said the delivery is important because electrification is not something everyone is familiar with

Dennis suggests we put together a written statement and have someone present it at Town Meeting; Mary thinks we should support it but notes that we should mention the importance of also modifying the building code; Eric asked Debra for background information to draft a letter of support; Dennis proposed meeting at the same time following Monday.

Peter B. mentioned idea to install Level 1 electric vehicle charging stations in the schools, which are the cheapest to install and provide enough mileage to cover the average commute; Andrea, Kate, and Eric think it makes sense.

2. *Minutes to approve*

January 11, 2021 Minutes

Andrea shared screen to show January 11, 2021 minutes; Peter B. mentioned he is not in the school committee, he is in the school building committee

Ms. Cousins makes a motion to accept the minutes of January 11, 2021 incorporating suggested changes;

Mr. Hudson – second

Ms. Cousins – aye

Mr. Hudson – aye

Mr. Loria – aye

The motion carries and the January 11, 2021 minutes are approved.

October 5, 2021 Minutes

Mr. Loria makes a motion to accept minutes of October 5, 2020:

Ms. Cousins – second
Ms. Cousins – aye
Mr. Hudson – aye
Mr. Loria – aye

The motion carries and the October 5, 2020 minutes are approved.

Adjournment

Ms. Cousins makes a motion to close the meeting at 7:30PM
Mr. Loria – second
Ms. Cousins - aye
Mr. Loria - aye
Mr. Hudson – aye

The Board voted 3-0, motion carries; meeting adjourned