

GREEN ADVISORY BOARD AGENDA

MONDAY, February 14, 2022

6:00 pm

VIRTUAL MEETING

Members Present: Mary Smith, Cameren Cousins, Eric Hudson, Peter Berry, Partha Krishnan

Sustainability Director: Andrea Becerra

Regional School Representative: Kate Crosby

Visitor: Jim Cogan, Deputy Chief (Police Department); Rich Burrows, Chief (Police Department); Sneha Iyer (Resource Force); Sara Karp (Resource Force, AB High School)

Mary Smith called the meeting to order at 6:02PM with a quorum present via a virtual meeting with no Board Members in physical attendance using Zoom.us virtual meeting platform.

1. Electric Police Vehicle

Rich H. summarized interest in Mache-E; plan is to replace a gas-powered vehicle; Rich B. noted that they could reduce the cost with the trade-in value, plus funding from state grant fund.

Cameren C. asked how quickly the GAB needs to come to a consensus on this; Rich B. mentioned that the sooner the better given the need to replace a vehicle; Andrea B. summarized the amount of funding remaining and the amount that could go towards this; Rich B. said they would add a QR code to the Police vehicle and promote it broadly in the community.

Cameren C. asked if they could push this off one more month to dive into the sustainability budget

2. AB High Resource Force – APC GREEN

Sara K. and Sneha I. presented on the proposal to make Acton Power Choice 100% GREEN the default option in the upcoming APC contract (based on current prices and average household energy consumption, the new default is about \$11 a month above the current standard option (the price of a pizza); summarized community aggregation program options in other communities

Cameren C. asked about experience in other communities about any potential pushback on moving to a higher REC % in the default option; Sara K. mentioned that most members of the community did not notice, but she did note, that like any change, the immediate change did cause a few phone calls, but those phased out.

Eric H. raised concern about the potential pushback from higher prices and asked when the new pricing would take effect; Sara K. noted that it will be important for residents to learn about ways they can opt down and that new contract begins in September 2022, so around the October billing cycle.

Mary S. noted that a postcard should go out with the contract, like it did with the last contract.

Andrea B. summarized the schedule for choosing a new contract; by early April.

Eric H. notes that we should draft a letter in preparation for the next meeting; Cameren C. volunteered to draft a letter of support; Sara K. noted the nuance between REC I vs. Class 2 RECs; Kate C. highlighted

leadership of Lowell and Newton; Andrea B. showed chart demonstrating the amount of REC Is in various aggregation programs in the state.

3. DOER Straw Proposal

Andrea B. noted that she will be drafting a letter that supports a more ambitious Stretch Code, in line with the bylaw banning fossil fuel in new construction and major retrofits.

4. Annual Report

Andrea B. will send around a draft of the annual report for comments

5. Extended Producer Responsibility

Andrea B. summarized Rob's presentation to the Select Board; Jim S. Grant summarized the letter of support the Select Board would signing in support of advocating for EPR resolutions.

6. Bottle Bill

Mary S. not sure she supports this; Eric H. says in general he would support a program that would promote a positive behavioral change; Mary S. noted we could revisit this in a future meeting.

7. Minutes

Ms. Smith makes a motion to approve the November 8, 2021 meeting minutes

- Cameren C. - seconds

All in favor:

- Eric H. – aye
- Cameren C. – aye
- Mary S. – aye
- Partha K. – aye

The motion passes; the minutes are approved.

8. Adjournment

Mary S. makes a motion to close the meeting at 7:32

- Cameren C. – seconds

All in favor:

- Cameren C. – aye
- Eric H. – aye
- Mary S. – aye
- Partha K. – aye