

Town of Acton Green Advisory Board

3 Members Including Alternates Needed for a Quorum

MEETING MINUTES

Place: Memorial Library Meeting Room, 2nd Fl.

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Date: Monday, September 12, 2011

Present: Mary Smith, Manisha Tyagi, Dennis Loria, Chris Schaffner, Eric Hudson, David Keene, Tom Michelman, John Sonner, John Murray Staff, Lili Early Recording Secretary, Robert Keene Intern, Kate Crosby Green Advisor to the Schools, JD Head Director Transportation and Facilities A/B Regional Schools, Dean Charter Municipal Properties Director

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1. Approval of the Minutes from the Meeting held at 08/15/11

Dennis L. asked for a voice vote to approve the minutes of 08/15/2011. The motion was made by Chris S. and seconded by Mary S. The vote was announced UNANIMOUS.

2. Election of GAB Chairs for FY 2012

The committee has to wait until the approval from the Board of Selectmen. The election will be voted at the next meeting.

3. Discussion of FY 13 budget requests and the effect of behavioral changes – Dean Charter and JD Head

Dean Charter and JD Head gave a review of the finished projects and their energy efficiency plans for FY13. A copy of JD's possible Green Communities grants is attached.

Dean Charter - He put \$15,000 in his budget for fixing pressurization issues at the Public Safety Building. He also mentioned that the Fire stations are asking for new heating systems, but those are long term capital plans. Tom M. mentioned that the energy prices have been reduced. Dean is in contact with our energy and gas suppliers. New rates will be 20% lower. He will work with Mary S. on the cost of energy.

JD Head – His priority is to be able to keep an energy efficiency employee full time. In addition, he needs to replace several busses. Mary S. suggested to seek funds for initial design of the Jr. High boiler retrofit. Mary S., Kate C. and JD H. will meet to develop a means to measure the effect of behavioral changes. Kate C. is going to apply for a Green Recognition Flag for the schools (called Ecco schools). Mary S. mentioned that there are a lot of ways to do this, they have done it at the university. John M. was wondering if the Town should also apply for one. JD H. will circulate the recognition form.

4. Update and progress on the 5-year Plan and Annual Report (will bring progress copy of the Annual Report) – Robert Keene

Robert produced a copy of the annual report, which is attached. The committee reviewed the report and it was agreed that Robert would vet the energy data with the appropriate staff person at the school and the Town. Kate C. suggested forming a sub-committee with Tom M. and Robert K. to work on the report. Robert will also meet with Chris S. to discuss the description of energy conservation measures, which needs to be added to the annual report. The complete report should be provided to Kate C. and John M. on September 23, 2011 by the end of business day. On September 26-28, 2011, the committee will work on the narrative of the annual report. The report is due on September 30, 2011.

Manisha T. volunteered to help and she suggested to list all the major line items and the reasons why the figures are going up or down on the report. Mary S. agreed.

5. Submission from Harvard University (HULA) to do a project for the Town of Acton-- Eric Hudson

Eric H. and John M. briefed the committee concerning the HULA research project. The Harvard Law Association wants to work on the project with us. Questions, such as can Acton have a revolving fund came up. John M. explained that plugging savings into a revolving fund, without appropriation, is not allowed by law.

The consensus of the committee was that the project should be pursued. Eric H. notified the committee that there will be a telephone conference with HULA on Thursday, September 15, 2011 to discuss the development of the project. Eric H. and John M. will attend.

6. Discuss Ways to get a Car Charging Station for the Town of Acton

This topic will be discussed at our future meeting, when time allows.

7. Invite – Sen. Eldridge, Rep. Benson & Rep. Atkins to a future meeting (Nov 7) to discuss needed law changes – John Murray

The GAB members think that this is a good idea.

8. Review Status of the 2011 GAB Goals – ITA

9. Public Relations – ITA

10. Town Purchasing Excess Electricity from Residential and Commercial Projects – ITA

Dennis L. asked for a voice vote to adjourn the meeting. The vote was announced UNANIMOUS. The motion was made by Chris S. and seconded by Tom M.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

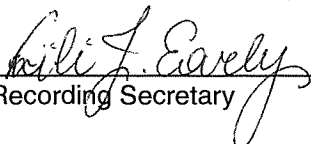
Future Meeting Schedule

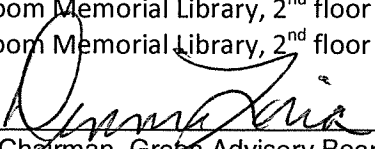
Meetings are to be held in the Conference Room of Memorial Library and will begin at 6:30 PM -unless otherwise noted

Mon Oct 17	Conference Room Memorial Library, 2 nd floor
Mon Nov 7	Conference Room Memorial Library, 2 nd floor
Mon Dec 5	Conference Room Memorial Library, 2 nd floor

2012

Mon Jan 9	Conference Room Memorial Library, 2 nd floor
Mon Feb 13	Conference Room Memorial Library, 2 nd floor
Mon March 12	Conference Room Memorial Library, 2 nd floor
Mon April 9	Conference Room Memorial Library, 2 nd floor
Mon May 14	Conference Room Memorial Library, 2 nd floor
Mon June 11	Conference Room Memorial Library, 2 nd floor
Mon July 9	Conference Room Memorial Library, 2 nd floor
Mon Aug 20	Conference Room Memorial Library, 2 nd floor
Mon Sept 17	Conference Room Memorial Library, 2 nd floor
Mon Oct 15	Conference Room Memorial Library, 2 nd floor
Mon Nov 19	Conference Room Memorial Library, 2 nd floor
Mon Dec 10	Conference Room Memorial Library, 2 nd floor


Recording Secretary


Chairman, Green Advisory Board

10/24/11
Date