



**GREEN ADVISORY BOARD
AGENDA
JANUARY 11, 2016
6:30 PM
ACTON MEMORIAL LIBRARY - CONFERENCE ROOM
486 MAIN STREET**

Link to documents numbered on this agenda:

<http://doc.acton-ma.gov/dsweb/View/Collection-7259>

- Reports:
 - Green Community Grant Project Status & Quarterly Reports (020-021)
 - Green Community Annual Report (030 – 039)
 - Annual Town Report - Green Advisory Board (050)

- Updates
 - Charge / Mission submission to Select Berry
 - Solarize Forum - February 29

Minutes

November 2, 2015

December 7, 2015



**GREEN ADVISORY BOARD
MINUTES
JANUARY 11, 2016
6:30 PM
ACTON MEMORIAL LIBRARY - CONFERENCE ROOM
486 MAIN STREET**

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

ASSOCIATE MEMBER: Padamaja Kuchimanchi

RECORDING SECRETARY: Joanne Gutierrez

MUNICIPAL PROPERTIES SUPERINTENDENT: Andrea Ristine

ACTON SELECTMEN: Peter Berry

REGIONAL SCHOOL ENERGY ADVISOR: Kate Crosby

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6:39 Mr. Hudson called the meeting to order.

Reports

Green Community Grant Project Status & Quarterly (020-021)

Ms. Crosby and Ms. Ristine each submitted their Green Community (GC) Grant Progress and Financial Quarterly Reports for the period of October 1, 2015 – December 30, 2015.

Ms. Crosby - All projects; Interior LED Retrofits, HVAC Upgrades, MDF Upgrade and WIFI Thermostats should all be complete by 2/15/2016. With the Schools project cost windfall (\$14,452) was shifted to the Street Light Conversion Project.

Ms. Ristine - The LED Street Light conversion is 40% complete as of year-end. The conversion is ongoing.

Ms. Crosby noted that Horizon and other vendors are finding it difficult to provide services to the grant programs due to the deadlines. In order to apply for the next round of grants in mid-March all existing projects have to be completed by February 18th, including checks and final reports before applying.

Green Community Annual Report (030 – 039)

Ms. Crosby reviewed benchmark data pertaining to the Annual Report for the Regional Schools.

Update – Charge / Mission Proposed Amendment

After some discussion the Board agreed to add “schools” back to the proposed amendment to the Green Advisory Board’s Charge. The proposed charge reads as:

The Green Advisory Board serves as an advisory committee reporting to the Board of Selectmen and the regional School Committee. The Green Advisory Board consists of five members and two associate members. Each member serves a three-year term and terms are staggered.

*The GAB advises the town **and schools** on issues relating to environmental sustainability. It also may assist town departments and other volunteer committees when invited, as Acton conserves resources, reduces waste, improves energy efficiency, and plans more sustainable land use. The GAB supports the town's and schools' participation in the Green Communities grant program, and helps prioritize energy reduction and renewable energy projects within the town and schools.*

Selectman Berry stated that he will bring it before the Board of Selectmen. Since the Board is only advisory it would not be necessary to meet before the School Committee.

Ms. Cousins moved to change the GAB Charge reinstating the "schools", Ms. Smith 2nd, unanimous.

Ms. Cousins moved to approve the amended Charge adding 'schools' back into the wording; Mr. Hudson 2nd, unanimous.

Discussion

Mr. Berry suggested that Matt Selby, the new Land Use and Economic Development Director, be invited to attend a GAB meeting, hopefully the April meeting. Mr. Berry stated that he sees Mr. Selby becoming the CEO of 2020 Plan. Other visitors he would like to see is Corey York, DPW Director to update GAB on the "Pay As You Throw" (PAYT) program at the Transfer Station, and Jim Snyder-Grant from Green Acton.

Ms. Ristine will contact Matt Selby and Corey York to schedule them for an upcoming agenda.

In an effort getting the schools more involved Mr. Berry thought it would be a good idea to recognize students who have made strides in recycling program. Ms. Crosby will contact the schools Green Teams to see which team might come to a future GAB meeting.

Selectman Barry also mentioned Natural Gas leaks and the effects to the environment. Utility companies are reporting and beginning to fix some 20+ year old leaks. (<http://clf.org/map/> "Safety" for map of gas leaks reported throughout the state).

Ms. Mary Smith wants to publicize some of the advantages about being a green community; people need to be informed what is available and the expanded federal credits.

Solar Forum

Mr. Dennis Loria reported that the intended date for the forum has been changed from February 29 to March 2, he hopes the venue location will at the West Acton Villageworks; he will confirm.

Minutes

Mr. Hudson moved to approve the minutes of November 2, Ms. Cousins 2nd; unanimous.

8:38 Meeting adjourned


Erik Hudson, Chairman