



GREEN ADVISORY BOARD

MINUTES

MARCH 6, 2017

6:30 PM

**ACTON MEMORIAL LIBRARY - CONFERENCE ROOM
486 MAIN STREET**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Eric Hudson, Mary Smith, Dennis Loria, Steve Lowe

RECORDING SECRETARY: Kim Gorman

MUNICIPAL PROPERTIES SUPERINTENDENT: Andrea Ristine

ACTON SELECTMEN: Peter Berry

REGIONAL SCHOOL ENERGY MANAGER: Kate Crosby

VISITOR: Jim Snyder-Grant, Terra Friedrichs

Link to documents numbered on this agenda:

<http://doc.acton-ma.gov/dsweb/View/Collection-8779>

6:35 Mr. Hudson called the meeting to order.

Minutes

Mr. Hudson moved to approve the minutes of February 13, 2017; Mr. Loria 2nd; unanimous.

Discussion – Submitted Green Communities Grant (GCG) Projects (010)

Board members discussed the projects submitted for this year's GCG. Application proposals were submitted to Mr. Hudson for review as the Board was not able to meet prior to the March 3rd deadline.

Ms. Crosby provided applications for three school lighting projects. Ms. Ristine submitted two projects for Fire Station 1, split heat pumps in the day room and unit heaters to be installed in the apparatus bay. Mr. Hudson recommended the school's projects for the grant.

Discussion – A Greener Acton (12-19-16 memo from D. Loria) (020)

Mr. Loria discussed next steps for the Board's role to do more in the community and developing Net Zero buildings and further contribution to promote energy efficiency and use of renewable energy sources and developing a plan for the BOS to accept and move forward with the process.

7:15 Ms. Friedrichs introduced herself and wanted to share information regarding the 350MA MetroWest Municipal Assessment Project and distributed an assessment form (checklist) and

asked the Board to support and help with Acton's assessment to help score Acton's carbon neutrality. Board members and staff asked for further information to discuss at a future meeting. Ms. Friedrichs departed at 7:20 PM.

Discussion – A Greener Acton (continued)

Mr. Loria continued with the discussion with the Board to promote development of a plan for any new building construction to be Net Zero.

Mr. Snyder-Grant reported that the Acton Board of Selectmen (BOS) agreed to and signed the ICLEI Pledge (International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives) in February 6, 2017. Board members discussed obtaining ICLEI'S Clear Path software to be able to create inventory, make a plan, and track Acton's progress in overall national climate goals.

Board members discussed the next steps on top recommendations and actions. Board members mentioned to review energy conservation measures. Read through old minutes GAB special session meetings, possible public relations campaigns and review spreadsheets. Contact Town Manager to investigate the possibility of an intern to explore and develop a plan for 2025; possibly get an additional town staff person to work with this goal from the Town Manager.

Mr. Hudson discussed the next steps: draft letter to Town Manager, work with consultant or additional town liaison to obtain assistance and request funding, obtain and work with ICLEI's Clear Path software, research the Acton 2020 group and obtain support from the BOS.

Mr. Hudson stated due to Annual Town Meeting in April and the next scheduled GAB meeting is May 8, 2017. Mr. Hudson asked Board members who could draft a letter to the Town Manager asking for additional funding for a consultant and additional town staff time that could be dedicated work with ICLEI's Clear Path software. After discussions, Mr. Hudson stated that he would draft the first draft to the Town Manager to capture discussions of the meeting this evening.

Discussion – Main Street Master Plan Update

Board members skipped agenda item since Ms. Cousins was not present and discuss at a future meeting.

Discussion - Solar Canopy Proposal Update

Mr. Loria discussed obtaining a simpler solar program but many have different incentives. It is premature for the town to consider soliciting a request for proposal, but the Board can be proactive and plan ahead for potential programs. Place on the agenda in Fall 2017.

8:211 Meeting adjourned.



Eric Hudson
Chair



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AGENDA

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Discussions:

- Submitted Green Communities grant application projects
- A Greener Acton
- Main Street Master Plan Committee update
- Solar Canopy Proposal Update

Minutes – February 13

No meeting in April

Next Meeting – May 8

