

MINUTES

Energy Efficiency Advisory Committee (EEAC) Meeting 6/30/22 (6:30 – 7:30 PM)

PRESENT - Members: W. Berry, M. Bartenhagen, L. Pratt, S. Negley, A. Dater.

ATTENDEES: Linda Miller-Cleary (Composting interest group).

MINUTES: Approval of 5/19/22 Minutes as amended.

OLD BUSINESS

CLIMATE CHANGE INITIATIVE PROGRAM. Nothing new on Town Climate Action Plan until Fall 2022 when the funding for the plan will be ongoing. Tom Herrod contacted Bartenhagen, along with one or two other folks in other adjacent Towns who have been working on the climate change issue, to connect with Rick Talbot of Rockland. Talbot is interested in getting more information on how Kennebunk and other Towns have approached the effort to produce a Greenhouse Gas Emissions inventory (GGEI). Bartenhagen spoke with Talbot at length, who was impressed with what our Town has accomplished through the efforts of the New School students and the UNH Sustainability Fellow to complete our GGEI, and was also very interested in the model being set through SMPD's work with Kennebunk and other nearby Towns to find and fund a consultant to begin work on a regional climate action plan. Talbot has contacted UNH to explore engaging a Fellow to work on Rockland's behalf in completing a GGEI, and he was excited about reaching out to other mid-coast communities to explore a similar collaborative effort to work on a climate action plan.

Bartenhagen attended a recent Maine Climate Council workshop and provided the following points in doing an action plan:

- Engage the community
- Follow the Comp Plan – part of EEAC's mission and task as stated in the Comp Plan - is to educate the public on the climate issue as well as other sustainability issues.
- One example of educational outreach that other towns in Maine have used is to transfer flood prone and special places maps that the town has and mount them on foam board, post them in town hall or other gathering places, provide push pins so citizens can identify where they live and/or special places they care about to 'bring home' what is at stake with increased flooding and provide the town with data for reference as a climate action plan is developed (perhaps working in collaboration with the Climate Initiative and/or Laudholm Reserve to create these maps). KHS Interactive Club has already been engaged in identifying land trust land and boundaries.
- Duplicate the Town of Rumford's 'rap sheet' which records what the town has been doing re: climate change and what the plans are going forward. Post at Town Hall and other gathering places, and on the Town's website, along with an invitation sheet providing space for concerned citizens to list their contact info if they want to participate in these efforts. We can accomplish much more if we have a larger Committee to work with.
- Ultimately, the Climate Action Plan and the ongoing effort to implement its recommendations should be posted on the Town's website.

Funding is already allocated from the State and feds via 'Maine Won't Wait' Commission of about \$59,000, plus money the Town has added. July 1st starts the 18 month planning process culminating in an action plan for each of the six towns. An RFP has gone out from SMDPC to hire an outside firm to do the plans under task forces from each town. Pratt has yet to learn from Town Manager Pardue how Kennebunk will choose its task force.

COMPOSTING TASK FORCE. Pardue has contacted Susanne Lee, UMO Mitchell Center, who is ready to work with the Town; and will work on a workshop for September 2022. Not clear at this point if CET (Center for Eco Technologies) can also be brought via Lee into our planning or not. Pratt will follow-up at the July 12th Select Board meeting on creating a town composting task force as a sub-committee of EEAC. Then a September public workshop on composting at the Waterhouse Center could be hosted by the Composting Task Force and possibly include Susanne Lee, CET(?) and Mark King, DEP as presenters.

The focus of the Task Force is likely to be on residential, school and community composting, all championed by Mark King and DEP. Suzanne Lee is a food waste specialist and has expertise in composting restaurant and hospitality industry food wastes of particular concern to the moribund Lower

Village Committee. Pratt foresees the attention of the Task Force as possibly pursuing residential/community composting and hospitality composting either together or in parallel. On the residential track, a workshop with Mark King, DEP, pursuit of DEP grants including more cage composting receptacles and waste diversion, transfer station advertising/education on composting there, and installation of signage by Agri-Cycle. At the same time or in parallel, work with Lee on hospitality composting – likely private sector activity – could go forward. The Task Force should remain flexible in moving forward with whatever opportunities present themselves.

LED STREETLIGHT CONVERSION PROGRAM. A meeting with Mark Carter, RealTerm and town staff Winton and Osterrieder was rescheduled to July 7th or other near-future date to learn the status of the LED conversion program, view RealTerm slides of possible candidate replacement fixtures and review any matters possibly affecting the public's expectations on street lighting going forward. Negley and Dater, as the Street Light Subcommittee of EEAC, agreed to send out information on ALAN (Artificial Light at Night) that summarizes the status of scientific knowledge on nighttime lighting as an aid to the Select Board members in reviewing matters concerning the LED conversion program.

MOTION. (Berry/Negley) – *When EEAC members individually send out information to other EEAC members, town officials or the public, state that it is from herself/himself and not from the Committee as a whole, but other members can also sign on.* **Approved** unanimously.

EEAC MISSION STATEMENT AND NAME CHANGE. Tabled until the July 7th meeting or other near-future meeting when Bartenhagen is present to discuss draft Mission statement.

NEXT MEETING. July 7th at 6:30 via zoom or other date such as July 14th – TBD. Main purpose will be to view a slide show by RealTerm on possible candidate fixtures for the LED street light conversion plus any other business concerning climate action and composting.