

Minutes--

Climate Advisory Committee

Jan 6, 2021, 4:30 pm by Zoom call

Approved Feb 3, 2021

In Attendance: Beckie Finn, Sue Hruby, Ginny Jones, Donna Paulnock, Garrison Vieira, Kate Warner, Faren Worthington

1. Minutes approved from Dec 2 meeting unanimously.
2. Beckie reported that the Questionnaire is now available online for people to fill out. (and it has been sent out via mail to 1700 WT households.) Faren said she would send it around to friends who are not homeowners. **BIG THANKS to Beckie for all her work on this.**

AND thanks to Rob for his hard work on the Storm Preparedness card and Sue and Faren for their work on the Wildfire card.

3. Climate Coordinator position. All in support of it. Sue to write a letter to the Selectmen expressing our support.

The following comments were made:

- Faren: One aspect will be a year for someone to help define what this job should be long-term
- Sue: Essential for next several years if the Town is serious about the 2040 resolution and the resilience work
- Rob: in favor but worried about redundancy between work of island town climate committees. Why not all work together?
- Beckie: Well thought out. More work than one thinks. Challenging. Research as to what others have been doing will be needed, establishing contacts with people who've done it. MA Climate Center mentioned
- Ginny: What requirements/qualifications would this person have?
- Garrison: Requirements for the job?
- Donna: *(did not get what she said in my notes...)*

4. Resilience project. Kate reported that the engineer teams are working away. The Selectmen voted on Dec 30th to go ahead with CVEC Round 6 with the Library being chosen for a solar/battery project. This will serve as a learning experience for the resilience project.

5. Town Report appreciated by all. One spelling change fixed for Rob. Thanks to Rob for his editing help.

6. Sue and Russ met with David Small, head of the Hopps Farm Road Association re FireWise program.
 - Determined that using information on the FireWise website could be good but joining and adhering to their requirements maybe not worth it.
 - Russ wants to go around to give his Emergency Awareness talks to road association groups along the Old County Road.
 - Sue said that they would set up a series of meetings with the Boards of the road associations for
 - Oak Lane, Skiffs Lane, Otis Bassett and Great Plains.
 - Russ is hoping to find people to establish CERT teams.
 - Sue mentioned sending out our fire brochure to these road associations digitally.
 - Discussion of need to keep Emergency Manager position separate from Fire Dept as in a major storm or wildfire, need all hands we can get and it is not advisable to save a few pennies and have less staff on hand
 - Suggestion made to approach insurance companies about fire safety preparation and possible reduction in insurance premium. *Thought not advisable to go ahead with this now.*

7. Question was asked if there is a way for all building managers to communicate during a major power failure. Garrison said there is a system in place for this.

8. Our current projects: Storm Tide Pathways grant participation, Fire Safety effort, tabulating results of the survey, North Road as an Emergency Corridor?, CERT training?, Resilience Project, zoning bylaw work.

Next meeting is Wednesday February 3rd, 4:30 via Zoom.

Liz Durkee will be there and Donna will present her ZBL work

Meeting adjourned at 5:20 pm