

Oak Bluffs Climate and Energy Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

Monday, February 7, 2022

Attendance: Bill Cleary, Marilyn Miller, Richard Toole, Simon Shapiro, Dion Alley, Peter Meleney, Emma Green-Beach (Ex-Officio, Select Board Member), Garrett Albiston (Ex-Officio, Conservation Agent)

Absent: Craig Saunders

Guests: Richard Andre, Luke Lefeber (Vineyard Power)

Topic 1: Call meeting to order

Bill called the meeting to order at 3:31 pm.

Topic 2: Approve minutes for January 3, 2022 C&E meeting

Peter reported that there were still minor changes necessary per an email from Marilyn. He said he would make those changes and send out the revised draft before the next meeting.

Topic 3: Richard Andre/Vineyard Power – RAP/Resiliency & Affordability Program; Solar Projects in OB

Richard Andre, President of Vineyard Power Cooperative, and Luke Lefeber, Renewable Development Analyst for Vineyard Power, came to the meeting in connection with our possible involvement with the Vineyard Power Development Fund (VPDF) Advisory Committee. He also came to brief us on the Vineyard Power Resiliency and Affordability Program (RAP). Richard presented an overview of this program with slides that showed:

- The amount of funding for the program coming from Vineyard Wind and subsequent projects,
- The purpose of RAP, “to support funding for the construction of battery energy storage and solar photovoltaic energy projects for the purpose of enhancing, resiliency and providing low-income ratepayer benefits...in communities hosting the Wind Project.”
- The RAP funds eligible projects.
- The establishment of an Advisory Committee comprised of representatives from each of the communities on MV and the members of that committee. Emma is listed as the OB representative.
- The list of potential projects by town.
- How the projects might be prioritized.

Emma noted that she was the only Select Board member from any of the towns appointed to the RAP Advisory Committee and she expressed an interest in one of our committee members being appointed instead. She said that she would forward information about the position.

Topic 4: Green Communities Update

Bill reported that the state had reviewed our applications and had come up with a few questions that he and Margaret were working on the answers for a resubmission. One item was that the base year had to be changed to 2020. Bill indicated that he didn't see any problem with our getting final approval.

Topic 5: Energy Survey

Marilyn reported that she has only 36 OB responses to the energy survey in spite of the fact that she had emailed it out to the ICAN list of 64 plus 60 contacts of her own. The questions remain on how we reach more OB residents and what we want to accomplish. Another question is whether VSEC will have any role in summarizing the results that show a lack of information island-wide on the economics and procedures for people switching. One of the committee members asked if there could be a role for Cape Light Compact in getting the necessary information out.

Topic 6: Climate Action Week – May 8-14, 2022

Marilyn noted that this has been scheduled. No information about our role was presented and no discussion took place.

Topic 7: Committee Member Updates

Bill noted that we still don't have any decision about whether climate issues should be taken up by a separate committee. He hopes to talk with individual committee members about this in the near future and then have a meeting with Wendy.

Topic 8: Next meeting

Bill noted that our next meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 7, 2022 at 3:30 pm.

Topic 9: Adjourn

The committee voted to adjourn at 4:53 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Peter L. Meleney