

## Oak Bluffs Climate and Energy Advisory Committee Meeting

### Minutes

Friday, July 30, 2021

Via Zoom

Attendance: Richard Toole, Bill Cleary, Marilyn Miller, Simon Shapiro, Peter Meleney

Absent: Craig Saunders, Gino Mazzaferro

#### **Topic 1: Call meeting to order**

Richard called the meeting to order at 3:02 pm.

#### **Topic 2: Approve minutes of July 14, 2021 meeting**

The minutes of the July 14, 2021 were approved as submitted.

#### **Topic 3: CLC and CVEC – Seek to appoint Craig Saunders as Oak Bluffs rep or alternate rep to these regional boards**

Richard reported that Craig is no longer interested in CLC because of the amount of work involved. Richard will clarify if Craig is willing to do CVEC instead. Marilyn mentioned that there is someone who is interested in joining the FinCom committee with energy credentials whom we might approach for our Energy Committee. Richard will follow up on this. Someone mentioned the idea of advertising for the position or for Richard to submit his resignation to trigger some action. He mentioned that he reached out to Jason Balboni about adding members to the Energy Committee. Marilyn suggested we formalize Gino's status to clarify our vacancies. Richard also mentioned that Emma Green-Beach will be the OB member of the Vineyard Wind committee that will consider how the Vineyard Wind monies to the Town will be used.

#### **Topic 4: Green Communities status (#1 on our project list)**

Bill reported that he had emailed Wendy on 7/16/21 about moving forward, but had not received a reply. He will follow-up next week with Deborah and Alice in order to make a presentation to the Select Board and get them to sign the necessary paperwork. There is some question about whether we need to get the signature of the local school committee or the school superintendent. Bill will check on this.

On another note, Richard reported that the solar panel installation at the elementary school seems to be moving very slowly and needs to be finished before school starts. He will check on this.

#### **Topic 5: Climate & Energy page on Town Website**

Bill noted that there is currently running a newspaper ad for a full time IT person. He will check with Deb and Wendy about the status.

#### **Topic 6: REPA/Regional Energy Planning Assistance – Net-Zero planning for Oak Bluffs (#7 on our project list)**

Marilyn noted that with the assistance of Cape Light Compact (CLC) we are applying for:

- Assistance to attain and maintain Green Community Designation. (max. \$1,500)
- Assistance with Net Zero planning. (max. \$12.5K) The services are:
  1. Develop N-Z emissions plan for municipal buildings & operations. (max. \$10K)
  2. Prepare a Community GHG inventory. (max. \$3K)
  3. Preparation toward developing a Community-wide N-Z plan. (max. \$5K)

Previously, Liz Durkee shared a comprehensive list of Climate Resilience projects for Oak Bluffs. Marilyn is to meet with Liz to review her insights for energy projects, or already identified Energy or Net-Zero projects. We also need Bill's insights on the MAPC Playbook (<https://www.mapc.org/net-zero/playbook>). Bill will check. Finally, we need to identify GC/Net-Zero projects for the Town of Oak Bluffs, prioritize GC/ECM projects and create master plans for specific buildings. Bill to review these tasks and check with Wendy and Deborah on how we can move forward.

#### **Topic 7: Inventory/List of 13 goals, projects, tasks as of 6/17/21**

Marilyn noted that our current projects are #1, #7 and #10 CVEC Round 6. She suggested that we focus on one or two other items at each of our upcoming meetings. One we need to deal with now is #2 - 100% Renewable for fall Town Meeting. Richard will send the information to Si so that he can come up with a game plan to make a Select Board request for this to be voted on then.

Marilyn suggested that the next item should be #4 – Transforming the Island's Energy System (MVC CATF Energy Working Group – PowerPoint presentation to OB Select Board; and that we request Alan Strahler of Edgartown (one of the authors) make the presentation. The committee agreed that this should be our next project.

#### **Topic 8: Eversource Issues – status of local response**

Richard noted that there hasn't been much of a response to Eversource's announcement that they are cancelling the BESS/battery storage facility and the 7/16/21 undersea cable failure. It was noted that VSEC is to make a presentation on Eversource issues to the MVC, so that the MVC can present issues to Eversource. Richard will continue to monitor the situation.

The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, August 13<sup>th</sup> at 3 pm (later altered to 8/20/21)

The meeting adjourned at 4:23 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Peter L. Meleney