

**Town of Brookline  
Select Board's Climate Action Committee (SBCAC)  
January 28, 2019 Meeting Minutes**

Attendees: Dan Bennett, Nancy Heller, Werner Lohe, Michael Berger, David Gladstone, Alan Leviton, David Pearlman, Linda Olson Pehlke, Deborah Rivers, Kathleen Scanlon, Don Weitzman

Staff: Maria Morelli, Senior Planner

Public: Many members of Climate Action Brookline, Mothers Out Front, and Green Caucus Town Meeting Members, and others attended (sign-in sheet does not record all who attended).

**Minutes of the December 17, 2018 Meeting**

**REVISIONS:**

- L. Pehlke had made a request to submit a Warrant Article to reduce drive-alone trips to Driscoll School via a Transportation Demand Management plan ~~to have Transportation Demand Management (TDM) for Driscoll put on the agenda~~ for the Special Town Meeting, but was told it was too late to do so. (Driscoll - 75% of the staff drive, single occupancy.)
- Formation of a ~~CAP Priorities~~ Legislative/Town Meeting Subcommittee was proposed to implement the CAP. The following people volunteered: M. Berger, D. Weitzman (willing to co-chair), S. Jett and J. Gray. There was consensus that this subcommittee would benefit from having members who are not members of the SBCAC. K. Scanlon and J. Harris will identify possible members ~~form from~~ from Mothers Out Front and Climate Action Brookline, respectively, and consult with the SBCAC co-chairs.

**VOTED** The SBCAC voted to accept the December 17, 2018 minutes with one revision 8-0-2 as amended.

**Staff Report, Climate Action Priorities for 2019**

Maria Morelli submitted the Climate Action Priorities for 2019, a list of 20 initiatives in progress (attached).

**Select Board FY20 Objectives**

Chair Nancy Heller referred to the draft Select Board objectives for the FY2020 budget book, which prioritizes planning to achieve zero emissions. The Select Board is scheduled to approve January 29. Maria Morelli encouraged specifying a goal of zero emissions Town-wide by 2030.

**Climate Spring 2019**

Chair Nancy Heller thanked Climate Action Brookline chairs for organizing Climate Spring with a new six-week format. Maria Morelli acknowledged that several Town departments attended the kick-off planning meeting, and staff is eager to participate. Nancy Heller encouraged coordination of the event with Climate Action Plan priorities.

## **Building Department Presentation**

Nancy Heller asked Building Commissioner Dan Bennett to give a presentation to the Committee at the February meeting to review energy conservation measures in place and planning activities to achieve zero emissions at Town facilities. Dan Bennett responded that he looks forward to doing but would like to give the Facilities Director the option to give the presentation in March.

## **Future Subcommittees and Committee Priorities**

Nancy Heller summarized a few areas in which subcommittees could advance the Town's emissions policy:

1. Recruiting technical experts to serve on subcommittees
2. Strategic outreach to promote opting up to 100% All Green electricity
3. Electric school buses study and pilot (Susan Martin provided a preliminary report to the Net Zero Schools subcommittee)

The Committee discussed additional priorities:

- Don Weitzman felt strongly that a subcommittee focused on electrification is a priority.
- Alan Leviton stated that the emissions planning for the private sector, which is responsible for 97% of greenhouse gas emissions community-wide, is also key.
- The Committee generally agreed that a subcommittee focused on improvements to the public way to reduce reliance of fossil fuels was another priority. Town Meeting Member Jules Milner-Brage encouraged advocacy to improve quality of bus service, such as dedicated bus lanes.

Town Meeting Member Jesse Gray asked if a subcommittee could be formed to promote curbside charging on residential streets. Maria Morelli suggested a pilot.

Maria Morelli noted that Chris Dempsey was thinking of an appointment from the Transportation Board to serve on the Climate Action Committee. She added that in the interim Transportation Administrator Todd Kirrane could give a presentation to the Committee to share initiatives the Town is currently undertaking.

- Deborah Rivers and Michael Berger urged the Committee to provide a framework to assess cost implications and cost benefits analyses.

Maria Morelli added that one of the criteria for implementing Climate Action Plan priorities [CAP Overview accepted by the Committee in December 2017] is an analysis of cost implications to ensure that actions are budgeted adequately. For example, the Building Department prepared a Scope of Work for an engineering firm to assess conversion of thirty buildings to all-electric to inform the Capital Improvements Program for the FY20-25 budget.

Meeting adjourned.