

Energy Action Committee

March 12, 2025; 7:00PM

Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

Brad Moyer
John Borger
Paul Sprecher
Brianna Bennett
Alexis Lefort
Brad Carr

Agenda

1) Meeting Announcement

The meeting was opened by verbal reading of the open meeting law below. The meeting was recorded.

2) Approval of minutes from prior meeting

There was a review and discussion of the minutes from the January meeting after which the minutes were approved by the committee.

3) Review recent Specialized Code activities and next steps

John has prepared and had published 2 articles in the Hingham Anchor and has proposed a 3rd to educate the Hingham community about the Specialized Code.

HCAC is planning on further public sessions to present the Specialized Code proposal and to take questions, including from the development community. Target date is April 9.

John, with members of HCAC (Gary, Elliott, Matt), will meet with an influential developer to discuss a new build at 65 industrial park road (John Selle) to get feedback on the Specialized Code in an active proposed project.

Art has asked for a member of EAC to join a meeting of HDIC to discuss the Specialized Code. Brad asked John B. to represent EAC. John agreed to attend and feels his planned article on the impact on commercial development will be helpful.

4) Heat Pump Forum (JO-AN HEILEMAN)

Jo-An introduced herself (member of HCAC and HNZ).

She has secured participation from the HCAC in the event; which will include an overview of the Specialized code; and suggested the EAC share a table/presence with HCAC (Saturday March 22 @ House of Prayer Lutheran Church).

The focus of the event is to educate participants on what heat pumps are, etc. The HCAC and EAC will have the opportunity to discuss the Specialized Code.

EAC members will assist as possible. Jo-An will send an email to confirm attendance.

EAC took a vote to participate with HCAC at the event. The EAC voted to approve participation in the event.

5) High School roof, HVAC, and solar projects (email from Brenda)

Per John, Patricia Burke is very involved in the planned and, while this is a complex topic, John has offered HNZ (potentially other groups) to assist with doing research on technologies, benefits, etc. given the limited resources of the town and school.

The EAC agreed to monitor the Hingham HSP meeting schedule and to attend meetings to oversee the progress of the design and ultimate funding of the resulting projects.

6) Discussion: 2025 EAC objectives

A brief discussion was taken about whether the EAC and HPAC should continue to co-exist or the EAC should be absorbed into HCAC.

One point of view is that the EAC is focused on municipal actions and tactical execution; another point of view is that there are a limited number of resources to maximize impact would suggest combining the committees.

It was also mentioned that Cleaner Greener Hingham should be considered as part of the overall resourcing for the town's net zero and/or environmental sustainability objectives.

It was mentioned that EAC engage with Maria Zade

John will engage with Maria to solicit any input.

7) Adjourn

This meeting is being held remotely as an alternate means of public access pursuant to Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2023 and all other applicable laws temporarily amending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law. You are hereby advised that this meeting and all communications during this meeting may be recorded by the Town of Hingham in accordance with the Open Meeting Law. If any participant wishes to record this meeting, please notify the chair at the start of the meeting in accordance with M.G.L. c. 30A, § 20(f) so that the chair may inform all other participants of said recording.