



MEETING MINUTES

- DATE: June 1, 2022
- PLACE: Remote meeting via Zoom
- MEMBERS PRESENT: Brad Moyer (Chair), Thomas Morahan, Beth Porter, Kathy Reardon, Bob Hidell, Maria Zade, Elliott Place and Gary Tondorf-Dick
- MEMBERS ABSENT: Carlos DaSilva and Nancy Wiley
- GUESTS: Priya Howell, Brianna Bennett, Brenda Black, Christine Eigenman, John Borger, Virginia LeClair, Tanya Bodell
- ATTACHMENTS: Energyzt Road Map Document for Public Involvement

The Chair, Brad Moyer, called the duly noticed meeting to order at 7:00 PM, and presented the Virtual Open Meeting Protocol and Procedures as outlined in the Governor’s Chapter 20 Pandemic Directive. The Chair further explained that in order to provide an opportunity for all to provide input, participants should raise their hand to indicate a desire to speak. Once the participant is recognized by the Chair, s/he should keep the remarks to agenda, and be succinct and respectful. If the participant does not, s/he will receive a warning from the Chair. If the participant continues to violate the norms, the Chair will mute the participant.

The Meeting was subsequently Zoom bombed three times. The Chair adjourned the Meeting as the Town website was locked out. The Chair postponed the meeting to June 8, 2022 if the Meeting could not be successfully reconvened this evening.

The Chair, Brad Moyer, reopened the CAPC Meeting at 7:39 PM. The Chair called the duly noticed meeting to order at 7:41 PM, and presented the Virtual Open Meeting Protocol and Procedures as outlined in the Governor’s Chapter 20 Pandemic Directive. The Chair further explained that in order to provide an opportunity for all to provide input, participants should raise their hand to indicate a desire to speak. Once the participant is recognized by the Chair, s/he should keep the remarks to agenda, and be succinct and respectful. If the participant does not, s/he will receive a warning from the Chair. If the participant continues to violate the norms, the Chair will mute the participant.

Given that the Town website was locked out, the CAPC Meeting could not be recorded.

Virginia LeClair, Energyzt, Reviewed the Road Map Document proposal for the upcoming Public Involvement Meeting scheduled on June 15, 2022. This document is the framework for the June 15, 2022 Public Forum Meeting. Roles and strategies were presented. A Community Engagement Survey draft would be presented and reviewed by the CAPC.



Brad Moyer, Chair, gave an overview of the progress of the CAPC to develop this community outreach and engagement process. The May 25, 2022 meeting coordination was reviewed. Tanya Bodell, Energyzt, will be the Moderator of the Public Forum. The intent is to present and receive feedback from supportive residents and the community at large.

The Public Forum Meeting Agenda will feature four areas of climate action planning:

1. Electrification-the move to electrification and renewables transitioning from fossil fuels
2. Transportation
3. Waste reduction management and recycling
4. Buildings-Energy conservation, efficiency and electrification

This CAPC Meeting will coordinate with Hingham Net Zero initiatives.

Brad Moyer referenced the email distribution of the Energyzt Road Map for this first Public Meeting.

Energyzt will present an overview of the agenda items and then the meeting will break out into the four climate action planning community group presentations and discussion. A timer will be used. Audience comments will be encouraged by the individual meeting moderators, and the meetings will be recorded with comments placed in the chat for distribution. The CAPC took a straw poll and endorsed the planning committee presentation format, a presentation scope of thought-out approaches and round table breakout sessions.

The CAPC members engaged in further questions and comments.

Maria Zade inquired as to whom was hosting the meeting? Town facilitator role? She noted that the chat is disabled in public meetings per the Open Meeting Law as it could be interpreted to be a deliberation outside the meeting. She asked about committee assignments.

Brad asked that the presenters forward their power point slides to Tanya and Virginia at Energyzt.

The four committee categories would be have the following presenters:

1. Electrification-HMLP-Tom Morahan, Brianna Bennett
2. Buildings-Solar-Abode and HMLP, Energy Action Committee Chair on HMLP Board
3. Transportation-Hingham Drives Electric
4. Waste-Maria Zade

Virginia LeClair asked about the meeting format-in person or virtual on Zoom? The meeting will be on Zoom to allow maximum public participation. Brenda Black clarified that Town Hall is being fitted with the technology to improve its ability to host virtual and in-person hybrid meetings.

John Borger asked if Hingham Net Zero's participation would be as a joint participant or as a separate



CAPC Meeting. He stressed that it is important to have the correct technology media. An omnidirectional microphone would facilitate in-person dialogue with the virtual Zoom meeting participants as the computer microphones are directional. More participation would occur with the meeting on Zoom.

Kathy Reardon asked about the meeting posting protocol. A quorum is required. Should Art Roberts, Assistant Town Administrator, be the host?

Brad Moyer will confirm the chat and Open Meeting Law requirements.

Virginia LeClair projected the meeting time to be 2 ½ hours. Bob Hidell commented that this is a lot of content to cover in a 2 ½ hour meeting. Virginia suggested that the format have a breakout room option to divide the meeting into groups. The group moderator could then present the group summary to the overall meeting. Brad noted that this format was used very successfully in the Master Plan Committee meetings.

Bob Hidell commented that breakout groups allow people to participate by area of interest. Beth Porter concurred as she felt that separate groups provide individual content to be shared with the overall meeting.

Brianna Bennett asked if the groups would involve random group assignments or specific interest assignments? Virginia LeClair shared her breakout group approach of the above four groups. Brianna suggested that people could select a specific group from options and switch groups according to their interest. Brad Moyer suggested that the equal group assignments and distribution be made. Brianna offered that people would want to join the breakout group that they were interested in. Brad summarized that each group would make a ten-minute presentation of the topics and then engage in 20 minutes of discussion with summary recommendations to be shared with the overall meeting participants.

Maria Zade suggested that people would not remember the first group presentation at the end of the fourth group presentation. Bob Hidell reiterated that this is a lot of information to present, discuss and summarize recommendations for. Beth porter suggested that each group self-select and gather insights.

Virginia LeClair reviewed the original project proposal. The proposal recommended individual committees would develop the specific group presentations and that Energyzt and the group moderators would facilitate group communication by directing the conversation and bringing people back on topic. Tanya Bodell stressed that people be focused. Brad noted that the structure would need to comply with the Open Meeting Law requirements.

Brianna Bennett noted that to meet the Open Meeting Law requirements, each group participant that was a member of a Town Board, Commission or Committee would have to request that the Public Forum be posted to allow a quorum of specific Town Boards, Commissions and Committees to attend.



Kathy Reardon asked if Energyzt would do the presentations? She suggested that a short overview presentation by Energyzt could be followed by the committee groups to provide a presentation of more specific content. Brad commented that the community approach would be provided in the breakout meetings. Maria Zade asked if the community group presentation would occur.

Virginia LeClair commented that the Energyzt slides regarding the community groups content were more developed than the group presentations at this time. The forum is intended to ask the community groups for their priorities and feedback. Maria Zade commented that the CAPC members have been in discussion with the Town DPW in regards to waste reduction management and recycling initiatives. Beth Porter commented that the CAPC, Energyzt and the Town pre-selected these four categories as these are the correct four priorities to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Additional categories are sustainability and public health.

Brad Moyer confirmed that the CAPC would introduce the CAPC and Energyzt initiatives describing our progress in sustainability and resiliency in the face of climate change. Brad noted that we can't control who attends the forum and what they would say. The CAPC has presented these opportunities for consideration for Town participation and feedback. He offered that he has concerns with keeping the participants' attention, gathering citizen input and overlap of ideas. Brad suggested that the CAPC decide on the following topics:

1. Format-Community groups
2. Overall meeting only or breakout sessions
3. Energyzt present at overall meeting and at breakout sessions
4. Energyzt data presented by CAPC?
5. People choose breakout sessions or are assigned?

Kathy Reardon recommended that Energyzt present the overview on the four topics first and then meet with the breakout session groups with a concise description of the initiatives and progress followed by an overall conversation.

Brad Moyer offered that the CAPC straw poll the decisions reached. The CAPC agreed:

1. All four topics for the overall presentation and breakout sessions. Unanimous vote.
2. Energyzt will present five minutes on each topic to the overall group. Unanimous vote.
3. The CAPC will monitor the presentations after Energyzt presents. Unanimous vote.
4. The CAPC agreed on the voluntary participation in the breakout sessions. Majority vote.
5. Brad will check on the virtual and hybrid technology status and Town protocol.

Kathy Reardon asked about community break out group representations. The following were agreed to:

1. Electrification-Energy Action Committee
2. Buildings-Abode-Heat Pumps, Insulating Homes, weatherization, HMLP



3. Transportation-Hingham Drives Electric, ENE-Marc Scribner.
4. Waste-Cleaner Greener Hingham

Brianna Bennett suggested that the breakout session groups encourage others to join the group that engages in an area that each person is less familiar with. A question and answer period would be beneficial to attendees of the other breakout session groups.

Virginia LeClair asked if there are others interested in the Buildings group.

Gary Tondorf-Dick suggested that the discussions offer options and technologies regarding transitioning from fossil fuel heat engines to electric heat pumps. Categories should include hybrid gas-electric, residential and commercial gas fired hot air systems and gas fired hot water systems. He noted that in discussions with commercial and multifamily condominium owners and developers, that commercial owners and developers were following new and stretch energy code requirements as the basis of their energy conservation upgrades. The group suggested that the CAPC invite Building Commissioner Michael Clancy to present and discuss compliance strategies with the energy and building codes.

John Borger discussed technology advances in heat pumps. A new line of air to air heat pumps is available. There are new air to water heat pumps to transition from gas fired domestic hot water to heat pump domestic hot water heaters. This new technology presents the option to replace a hybrid natural gas back up heat for air to water heat pumps and domestic hot water heaters to meet the 150 degree F to 170 degree F temperature requirements for hydronic system heating and hot water. John will forward this new information to the CAPC.

John Borger asked about the breakout session group focus.

Virginia LeClair suggested that the groups would take in ideas and prioritize approaches. A framework for concrete presentations and feedback would then be developed. Public input is needed in advance of the December 15, 2022 CAPC Public Forum meeting. Ideas and strategies to reduce carbon emissions of greenhouse gas use will be presented. The implementation of a micro grid vs. district heating will be presented and discussed.

Kathy Reardon asked if prepared questions would be developed for the breakout session groups. Energyzt answered that discussion, not presentation, is the focus of the breakout sessions. The group moderator will lead the discussion for input, ideas and direction from the public.

Brad Moyer confirmed the completed decisions of the CAPC regarding content and format points. The public engagement session was agreed to. Items to be developed include group definition and questions to guide the conversation in the breakout session groups.

Kathy Reardon noted that there is capacity for this discussion in the hybrid Zoom meeting format.



John Borger suggested that we find groups and representatives of this energy efficiency and electrification technology who can speak knowledgeably regarding building issues. Suggested groups include the Foster School Building Committee, The Public Safety Building Committee and professionals, vendors and contractors in building design and technology and building owners, especially residential conversions, who have transitioned successfully to a Net Zero Building.

Brad Moyer asked the Buildings committee to think of how to efficiently discuss the building issues. He suggested that the cost of the conversion and transition to a non-fossil fuel heat source will be most important. Abode and Net Zero are key resources.

John Borger noted that Building Commissioner Michael Clancy has significant interaction with the contractor community. We need a robust participation of the contractor community in order to be successful in these transition initiatives. The Buildings committee should develop a process of contractor communication and involvement and then solicit Michael Clancy's detailed input.

Kathy Reardon suggested that we "take the temperature" of the community. Community outreach could be done through the League of Women voters for example.

Brad Moyer commented that we need an outreach list of these networks. Maria Zade agreed that we need to reach out to other Town groups and present to them.

Bob Hidell noted that environmental groups are not well known in Hingham. We need a grass roots effort to engage the community. The CAPC is talking about impacts that most people don't think of. The CAPC initiatives will develop community backing of this climate action program.

John Borger suggested that we need to be realistic about Net Zero participation. Our presentation template needs to make sense and we need to socialize these issues. A schedule of tasks for June 15th to September 15th should be developed.

Beth porter nominated Bob Hidell to engage in community outreach.

Brad Moyer continued discussion of our plan for the June 15th Public Engagement meeting.

Gary Tondorf-Dick suggested that the CAPC ask Michael from Abode to present at the June 15th or a subsequent meeting. Michael and Abode have wide expertise in energy conservation and building energy use analysis and documentation. This presentation would be separate from a subsequent building and energy code presentation at a later meeting.

Gary commented that residential homeowners, tenants and commercial building owners and tenants are concerned about the fuel price inflationary surge as of this spring. This will be a major concern as the fall and winter heating season begins in late September. Transitioning from fossil fuel sources to electrification offers a cost-effective solution. This is an opportunity to capture



residents' concern and focus on this transition as a cost-effective initiative in sustainability. Michael and Abode work with HMLP daily and their expertise will be very beneficial in developing our planning.

Brad Moyer made a motion for the CAPC to approve the following:

1. Introduction to the Public Forum as stated.
2. Four topics as stated.
3. Energyzt-Overview presentation, breakout session presentations and summary.
4. Separate breakout sessions for each topic.
5. Electrification-HMLP and EAC
6. Buildings-Abode
7. Transportation-Hingham Drives electric
8. Waste-Cleaner Greener Hingham
9. Energyzt and CAPC will be the moderators of the discussion.
10. Energyzt and CAPC will report out the Public Forum presentation and breakout sessions.
11. Feedback from the community will be incorporated on the reports.

Gary Tondorf-Dick seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously by Brad, Bob, Kathy, Maria, Tom, Beth, and Gary

Brad Moyer will coordinate with Kathy Reardon and Mike Clancy.

Brad Moyer accepted a motion and unanimous vote to adjourn and adjourned the CAPC Meeting at 9:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Gary Tondorf-Dick