Town of Princeton

Environmental Action Committee (EAC)

Meeting Minutes – June 12th, 2023

* Meeting called to order at 7:10 pm
* *Members in attendance*: Corey Burnham Howard (CBH), Claire Golding (CG), Gerry Pellegrini (GP), Kaitlin Kohberger (KK), Forrest Iwanik (FI)
* *Members absent*: Matthew Charpentier (MC)
* *Public in attendance*: Richy Bisk (RB)
* Public Comment: None
* Review of May’s Meeting Minutes: A few spelling/acronym corrections. CG moved to approve as amended, CBH second, unanimous.
* Updates on Ongoing Initiatives:
  + See attachment.
  + CG on Master Plan Steering Committee (MPSC): First round of chapters has been sent to the state in “draft form.” Once they’re reviewed by the MPSC the chapters will be shared with other interested town committees, likely later this summer.
  + Thomas Prince School (TPS) STEAM Night table was hosted by CG and KK. Both expressed enthusiasm that our presence there was worth it and hope to be involved in future events.
* Old and New Business:
  + Member Recruitment:
    - Brendan Toohey has withdrawn from consideration.
    - Status of Matt Charpentier as associate member is still up in the air.
  + Brainstorming Next Year Objectives:
    - Members presented their personal lists of priorities and collaborated on a singular theme and list of potential objectives. CBH will distribute the list for further consideration and refinement to be confirmed next meeting.
  + Officer Elections:
    - CBH will remain Chair.
    - GP will be the Vice-Chair.
    - FCI will be Secretary.
    - CG will be Editor.
  + Liaison Appointments:
    - GP has volunteered to be the liaison to PMLD. Since their meetings are at 3PM, Gerry may have trouble attending meetings, but he will maintain communication with Phil Gott and keep the EAC abreast of any relevant information.
    - Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) Program liaison was not appointed as there is very little consistent work to be done. CBH will keep the committee informed of goings-on.
    - RB will be Public Safety Building liaison following his confirmation to the EAC.
* Next meeting date: July 10th, 2023 at 7:00 pm.
* Agenda items for next meeting:
  + Same as usual with the following changes:
    - Climate Outreach Campaign, TPS STEAM Night, Officer Appointments to be removed from the agenda.
* Motion to adjourn proposed by CBH at 8:53 pm, CG second, unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Forrest Iwanik

**EAC Working Group Updates for Review and Discussion at EAC June Meeting:**

**Green Communities Initiative Update (CBH) (PG)**

*No new updates.*

**Snow & Ice Policy (CBH)**

*No new updates.*

**Climate Resiliency Outreach Campaign (CBH)**

*(See Communications updates below.)*

**MVP**

*No new updates.*

**PFAS Information Sharing (FI)**

*No new updates.*

**Communications/Newsletter/Website (CBH)**

- EAC partnered with Worcester’s Community Rain Barrel, and Phil Gott helped pick up a rain barrel for a resident. FI was working to get final numbers of Princeton participants.

- **May - Local Food and Agriculture**- FI’s Green News Brief was published on May 11. FI, CBH, and GP hosted an EAC table at Rattle Root Farm as a participant in the Town Agricultural Commission’s Farm Day on 5/21. The EAC had copies of Green News Briefs, a sign-up sheet, the EAP, Environmental Bingo, and Mammoth Sunflower Seed planting in peat pots.

- **June Green News Brief- Invasive Species: Plants and Insects** –KK’s Green News Brief was published on June 5.

- **TPS STEAM Festival** – KK and CG hosted an EAC table at the TPS STEAM Festival. They hosted Environmental Bingo and Mammoth Sunflower Seed planting in peat pots.

- Still need to make website corrections/updates. CBH reached out to new Town Clerk who said she’d train CBH as to how to make changes to pages once she is settled into her new position. CBH will reach out again after Town elections and Town Meeting…

**EAC Liaison Updates:**

**Public Safety Building Committee**

*No new updates.*

**Master Plan Steering Committee (MPSC) update** **(CG)**

*No new updates.*

**Waste and Recycling Committee Update (CG)**

*No new updates*.

**Princeton Solar Farm Working Group (CBH)**

- The SFWG distributed an FAQ on the Solar Farm Warrant Article via Town News, Nextdoor Princeton, and Our Princeton and Discussing Princeton, MA Facebook pages. Richard Chase presented on the Solar Farm warrant article at the Advisory Committee hearing on the warrant articles, and the topic was also discussed at the Selectboard’s pre-Town Meeting public information session.

**Open Space Committee (GP)**

No new updates.

**PMLD**

*No new updates.*