Town of Princeton

Environmental Action Committee (EAC)

Meeting Minutes – July 10th, 2023

* Meeting called to order at 7:02pm
* Attendance -
  + *Members present*: Claire Golding (CG), Gerry Pellegrini (GP), Kaitlin Kohberger (KK), Richard Bisk (RB), Forrest Iwanik (FI)
  + *Members absent*: Corey Burnham-Howard (CBH)
  + Advisory committee liaison Josh Tanenbaum joined via remote access at 7:52pm
  + No public present
* Review of June’s meeting minutes: CG moved to approve as written, RB second, unanimous
* Updates on EAC Initiatives -
  + See attached Compilation of Updates.
  + Waste and Recycling: Subcommittee met with a rep from E.L. Harvey on June 22nd. Without a single hauler contract there is no incentive on their end to modify their standard service to help promote waste reduction. Two issues were raised for EAC consideration:
    - Battery disposal awareness PSA or potential disposal day
    - Mattress disposal awareness PSA or potential disposal day
  + Princeton Municipal Light Department: Phil Gott has wrapped GP into communications with PMLD, who will be attending their August meeting.
  + Rain Barrel Update: FI reported that approximately ten rain barrels were ordered by Princeton residents through Worcester’s event.
* Old and New Business –
  + More discussion and planning for next year’s theme, schedule, and priority action items. Progress was made toward organizing ideas into a cohesive timeline and deciding who will take the lead roles on which initiatives. **Action Item:** All members to independently think about how to finalize and/or improve the timeline.
  + EAC discussed the Open Space Committee’s inquiry about our interest in aiding them with their fall nature walk series and agreed to offer aid in organization and advertisement. FI to check in with Corey Burnham-Howard and continue discussion with Rick Gardner of the OSC.
  + EAC decided to table discussion of Rick Rys’s solar information until next meeting.
* GP moved to adjourn at 8:3pm; CG second; unanimous.

Documents reviewed:

* “June” Brainstorm Summary of Repeat Priority mentions
* “May/June” Brainstorm
* RGardner Nature Walks Email
* RGardner Summary Nature Walks Feedback 2023
* RRys PV Advice for Princeton MA
* RRys Email re: PV Advice for Princeton MA
* Draft EAC Meeting Minutes 6/12/23
* EAC Compiled Updates (see attached)

Respectfully submitted,

Forrest Iwanik

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

**Green Communities Initiative Update (CBH)**

Ian McElwee of CMRPC was working to get Princeton’s Energy Reduction Plan (ERP) on the WRSD School Committee agenda. Adoption of the ERP by the WRSD will allow for TPS to be included in the ERP and for funding for energy upgrades to be utilized at TPS. The ERP was on the July 10 WRSD Agenda, but Ian has cancelled and asked to be rescheduled to WRSD’s August schedule.

**Snow & Ice Policy (CBH)**

*No new updates.*

**Climate Resiliency Outreach Campaign (CBH)**

The campaign ended June 2023.

**MVP**

*No new updates.*

**PFAS Information Sharing (FI)**

*No new updates.*

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

- 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 Solar Farm Warrant Article passed at Town Meeting. The SFWG is meeting on June 13 at 10a to discuss next steps.

- Rick Rys has shared his advice and thoughts on residential and community solar. Rick welcomes feedback from EAC.

**Open Space Committee (GP) (CBH)**

OSC Chair, Rick Gardner reports that the spring Nature Walks events were successful. OSC is working to schedule another series of Nature Walks for fall 2023 and/or spring 2024. OSC is looking for feedback from EAC as to how and in what capacity EAC would like to be involved and/or sponsor the event. Feedback and suggestions on the walk are also welcome. OSC next meets on July 12 so a consensus on feedback by then would be appreciated

**PMLD (GP)**

*No new updates.*