

Princeton Environmental Action Committee (EAC) Meeting Minutes

3/19/2018

- **Meeting called to order** at 7:35pm
- Committee members present: Claire Golding (CG); Corey Burnham-Howard (CBH); Phil Gott (PG); Christine Samoiloff (CS); Brett Gibbs (BG); Phoebe Moore (PM); Michael Knapp (MK)-(arrival at 7:45p)
- **Public comment**
 - None.
- **Welcome to new committee member**, Chris Samoiloff
- **Secretary Rotation**
 - Discuss rotating the roll of secretary among EAC members; CS was asked and agreed to be Secretary for a period of time moving forward (approx. 3 months), then duty will rotate to another member
 - CBH offers to take minutes for this 3/19/18 meeting, and members accept/ agree
- **Review and approve meeting minutes of 1/24/18 and 2/21/18 meetings**
 - **VOTE:** Motion to approve 1/24/18 minutes by PM, 2d by PG, passed 6-0
 - **VOTE:** Motion to approve 2/21/18 minutes with minor grammatical amendments by PM, 2d by CBH, passed 6-0
- **Summary Report of EAC Survey Qualitative Data**
 - PM expresses appreciation of feedback from EAC members with regard to format of summary report
 - PM notes that survey function was to engage the town, and notes a supportive reaction from Princeton Selectboard members when EAC presented summary of data to Selectboard at recent Selectboard meeting
 - PM references PowerPoint presentation that was made to Selectboard and will share that with all EAC members
 - PM asks “what to do with the survey results next?” and suggests embedding them in the Environmental Action Plan (EAP)
 - CBH suggests entire survey results should be added as appendix to EAP
 - PG suggests including “Call Out Boxes” in EAP with quotes and/or statistical numbers from survey respondents
- **Report on EAC Survey Summary Presentation at Selectboard Meeting on 3/5/18**
 - CG and PM presented, PG, CS, and CBH attended
 - Positive response from Selectboard members
 - CG informed Selectboard that EAC expects September 2018 timeline for completion of EAP
 - With regard to EAC activities, Selectboard asked for advanced notice but generally gave EAC free reign on outreach/activities
 - When asked by EAC members about expectations for EAC once EAP is complete, Selectboard indicated an intent to continue an EAC to assist in EAP implementation
 - One noted area of interest discussed with Selectboard was with regard to reviewing Trash Haulers in town; this was a debated issue on Nextdoor Princeton forum as well, with respondents there seemingly 50/50 in support for single Trash Hauler
- **OLD BUSINESS:**
- **EAC Survey Summary Presentation for PMLD**
 - CG suggests that such a presentation be different/more energy-focused, and that EAC might offer EAC services as to more specifics about what the Town might do with renewables.

- CG suggests a PMLD presentation be about survey areas related to energy and “would you be interested in having EAC dive more deeply into X area”
- MK offers that at a PMLD presentation it is important to note Princeton residents needs/desires
- CS suggests inviting greater Princeton community to such a presentation
- CBH suggests it is important to stay focused on the EAP work and writing the plan, and to offer EAC research services at a later date
- MK agrees with CBH and suggests EAC services to PMLD would be work for post-EAP
- PG notes that Rick Rys has expressed interest in multiple presentations from EAC to PMLD
- CG suggests presentation at PMLD meeting where EAC: (1) shares results from EAC fall survey; and (2) expresses EAC desire to work with PMLD
- CBH and PM suggest EAC asks PMLD how EAC can help PMLD
- PG wants to ensure statistical validity in presentation, and PM notes that survey results are from a “motivated sample” of Princeton residents
- CG offers possible suggestion for future activity with PMLD of a mutual survey
- PM offers possible suggestion that EAC could serve as informational/marketing piece for PMLD
- MK thinks the “packaging of ideas” and the marketing of EAP actions is important component of EAP, and PM suggests “Welcome Wagon” informational literature from EAC
- **ACTION ITEMS:**
 - PM with CG to create PowerPoint for PMLD April Meeting
 - CG to check on PMLD April Meeting date and request to get on their agenda
- **VOTE:** Motion to present to PMLD a qualitative and quantitative data summary of EAC fall survey regarding clean and renewable energy- by PM, 2d by MK, pass 7-0
- **Green Community Designation Presentations**
 - CG notes that EAC previously discussed a possible informational presentation to Princeton Selectboard on Green Communities
 - **ACTION ITEMS:**
 - CG to ask Kelly Brown (of Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation) her recommendations on best time in process to educate the town/Selectboard on Green Community designation
 - CBH to contact Margaret Nartowicz (Rutland Town Administrator) regarding her related experience and recommendations on best time in process for a Green Community informational presentation to Selectboard
 - CBH to Summarize for the EAP draft - the Green Community designation process, including an explanation of steps and costs with regard to adoption of the Stretch Code
- **Wachusett Meadow Sheepfest on 4/28 from 1p-4p**
 - Mass Audubon has asked EAC to participate with information table. EAC members had agreed at last meeting to such action with Selectboard approval. Given Selectboard support of EAC outreach/activities, EAC members agree to plan to participate in Sheepfest.
 - **ACTION ITEMS:**
 - CS to compile information regarding natural lawn care, spring activities, and how to find providers and forward to CG for formatting/editing
 - MK, PM, CBH, BG all may be available to host EAC table at Sheepfest
- **EAP research and inquiry: status update, outlines, etc.**
 - Energy:

- PG has continued to work on Energy section, including seeking feedback from Rick Rys with regard to accuracy of information included with regard to current Princeton energy
- Land Use:
 - CS as new member expresses interest in Land Use research, particularly related to pesticides, herbicides
 - BG, CS, and CBH express interest in finding out what chemicals Town applies or not in grounds maintenance
 - CBH notes discussion in Nextdoor Princeton forum with regard to storm treatment on Town roads, and members agree this is an area to consider in Land Use section of EAP
 - PG notes his understanding that Industrial zoned land on Hubbardston Road is in a watershed and is partially owned by Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation
- Natural Systems:
 - PG suggests topic to consider in Natural Systems category is impact of salt in water filtration on greater environment
- Generally:
 - CBH suggests CG (as editor) create outline/format for EAP from which all EAC members can work
 - PG/CBH suggest need for timeline/deadlines for EAP draft
 - EAC members agree and discuss 9/30 deadline for final draft and 7/31 deadline for first draft
 - CBH suggests final EAP best if “short and concise”
 - MK agrees this is important
 - CS suggests “progressive disclosure” where summary information is stated and more is disclosed as necessary
 - CG and PM suggest footnotes and references to appendices
 - PG/CBH note that EAP references to cost/benefits to each action in EAP may be extremely time consuming if quantitative; CBH references advice from Tacoma, Washington EAP leader that for time/funding reasons they put “benefits and costs” into ranges to compare actions; PG suggests costs/benefits should note “payback time”
 - PG suggests that moving forward, every other meeting include a “brainstorming” session related to an area of the EAP
 - EAC members agree this is a good idea
- New Business
 - Members agree that, going forward, start time for all meetings will be 7p.
 - CBH suggests outreach to Facilities Steering Committee (FSC) as they may need informational assistance with regard to building efficiency.
 - **ACTION ITEMS:**
 - CBH to see if EAC can get on upcoming FSC agenda to offer support
- Agenda items for next meeting
 - Public Comment
 - Review and approve minutes of 3/19/18 meeting
 - Report back on action items
 - Refine deadline/schedule for EAP draft
 - Brainstorm energy topic of EAP
 - Agenda items for next meeting
- Adjourn at 9:21pm
 - **VOTE:** Motion to adjourn by CG, 2d by MK, pass 7-0

Respectfully submitted,
Corey Burnham-Howard