

**Princeton Environmental Action Committee (EAC)
Meeting Minutes
October 3, 2018**

Meeting called to order at 7:05pm

Committee members present:

Claire Golding (CG), Corey Burnham-Howard (CBH), Phoebe Moore (PM), Phil Gott (PG), Chris Samoiloff (CS)

Public Comment: none

Review & Approve Minutes:

- September 5, 2018. Motion to approve: CBH; 2d: PM. Approved 5-0
- September 17, 2018. Motion to approve: PM; 2d CBH. Approved 4-0 (CS abstained because she was absent from 9/17 meeting)

Review next Environmental Action Plan (EAP) edited section—Natural Resource Management

Editorial comments/changes:

- Committee changes some proposed subheadings to be more concise, including: combining discussions on indoor and outdoor air quality
- With regard to “Steps & Strategies” to be suggested in Environmental Action Plan (EAP), committee informally agrees to change:
 - o “Gather Information” step to “Gather Further Information” since EAC has done much info gathering already
 - o “Disseminate Information” step to “Develop and Activate Dissemination Strategy”
- Committee agrees each EAP section should have a “definitions” section and “acronym” section
- CS to complete citations needed for end notes

Discussion of substantive comments:

- EAP discusses radon in air quality, and committee discusses whether to include other indoor air quality contaminants like asbestos and lead. Committee informally decides to not include those other health hazards at this time but instead to focus on “environmental” contaminants and/or health concerns arising from environment (i.e., like from radon)
- Discussion on need to obtain “present situation” information on air quality testing in Town-owned buildings.
 - o *Action Items:* Look at Facilities Steering Committee reports and draft questions for Town Administrator to include whether there are periodic/scheduled water and/or air quality testing of town-owned buildings.
 - o *Action Items:* CS to contact TPS re: indoor air quality testing results
 - o *Action Items:* CBH to research recommended air quality and water testing (as recommended by medical associations and/or Mass Department of Environmental Protection), including on whether regulations require periodic testing of air or water quality at public buildings
 - o *Action Items:* Research present situation/ town requirements for wood stove certificates of occupancy, town policy on catalyzed wood stoves, and EPA certification/compliance

- for wood stoves
- Discussion on possible inclusion in EAP of Town action to draft watershed management policy and whether it's necessary/beneficial in addition to already existing state regulations on watershed management.
 - o *Action Items*: CBH to research watershed management policy benefits/costs; CBH to research other town's watershed management policies
- Committee discusses whether possible EAP recommendation of winter road management policy is best in Land Use or Natural Resources Management section. All agree that the primary impact to winter road maintenance is water quality (as well as vegetation) and so agree Natural Resources Management is best fit.
 - o *Action Items*: Draft questions for Town Administrator as to current policy; inquire as to whether there are any "reduced salt" usage areas on Town roads; CBH to research effectiveness of alternatives to salt and sand; CBH to research applicable environmental regulations
- Committee discusses possible EAP recommendation of Town water use reduction policy. Benefits to include: decreased electric costs; water conservation
- Committee discusses possible EAP recommendation of stormwater retrofit installations such as "green roof", permeable parking lots, beneficial landscaping.
 - o *Action Items*: CG and/or CBH to research more
- Committee briefly discusses possible "Air Quality" related recommended EAP actions. Most need more research and information.

Review next Environmental Action Plan (EAP) edited section—Land Use

- Committee briefly discusses the addition of possible EAP action items as relate to light (e.g., "cut-offs" for more direct cone of light on street lights and new light installations) and noise pollution (e.g., limited hours; truck "jake" brakes)
 - o *Action Items*: CBH to research

Review next Environmental Action Plan (EAP) edited section—Energy

- PM is now making additions/edits to this section. PG has added some citations.

Massachusetts Climate Action Network (MCAN) meeting on 10/20

- EAC members were invited. Meeting agenda "Green Muni Summit". Rick Rys plans to attend. TBD whether any EAC members can also attend.

Action Items

- (See those listed above).
- Each committee member to draft questions relevant to their EAP section with regard to info needed on "present situation" for compilation of questions (by CG) to present to Town Administrator

Agenda items for next meeting

- Public comment period
- Review and approve minutes of October 3, 2018 meeting
- Review Energy and/or Land Use Section of EAP
- Agenda items for next meeting

Meeting adjourned at 9:08pm. (Motion to adjourn: CBH; 2d: CG; Approved 5-0).

Respectfully Submitted,
Corey Burnham-Howard