

City of Cambridge

CLIMATE PROTECTION ACTION COMMITTEE

Minutes

December 13, 2018

City Hall Annex, 2nd Floor Meeting Room

Attendees: Melissa Chan (chair); Lyn Huckabee, Peter Crawley, David Rabkin, Julie Wormser, Trisha Montalbo, Brian Goldberg, Lauren Miller; Keith Giamportone, Keren Schlomy, Rachel Jacobson, Fred Hewett. Ted Live; *staff:* Bronwyn Cooke, John Bolduc

Guests: Annie Davis

Approval of Minutes

Minutes were not approved due to lack of quorum.

ETP Director Report

- The Port Infrastructure Project commenced construction. The first phase of the project involves the installation of a underground stormwater storage tank at the Public Parking Lot No.6 on Bishop Allen Dr. The City is planning a second tank. Both tanks would reduce the frequency of urban street flooding in The Port neighborhood for the 10 year flood event, including through 2030 with increased precipitation. But larger storms can still cause flooding.
- The development of the Climate Preparedness and Resilience Plan for The Port neighborhood has started. The CCPR team is working with a focus group to develop a draft plan which will be presented for public discussion and comment probably in February 2019. This will be the second neighborhood plan along with the one done for the Alewife/Fresh Pond area. Both plans will inform a citywide plan to be completed in the summer of 2019.
- The Mystic River Watershed Association has convened a new Resilient Mystic Collaborative to work on climate resilience in the Mystic River watershed. So far about ten communities are actively participating. All 21 municipalities recently signed onto a letter to the Governor requesting that he appropriate \$5 million from the Environmental Bond for the design and installation of a fourth pump at the Amelia Earhart Dam. CPAC member Julie Wormser recently joined MyRWA as deputy director and is leading the resilience initiative.
- The City's Urban Forest Master Plan process is about half way through. People interested in this issue should view the task force materials that are posted at www.cambridgema.gov/UFMP. The plan is being driven by data and the materials prepared by the consultant team are posted.

Cambridge Curbside Organics Program and Recycling

Michael Orr, the City's Recycling Director, presented on the status and operations of the Curbside Organics Collection Program which was expanded citywide in 2018 after a pilot period. Michael also discussed the state of recycling and its relation to greenhouse gas emissions. His presentation is attached to the minutes.

The Committee expressed interest in continuing the discussion about waste and consumption in Cambridge's carbon footprint. Michael will be invited back in the spring. Possible topics include producer responsibility and waste reduction.

Debrief on November Meeting with City Manager

The Committee briefly discussed the November meeting. Melissa Chan noted that the City Manager expressed a desire to hear from the Committee on a range of issues and suggested it would be good to compile a list of follow up actions. The role of metrics in City budget decisions and policymaking was noted as an important area. The Committee will continue the discussion at the January meeting.

Notes by John Bolduc