

## Climate Protection Action Committee

### Minutes

November 14, 2019

City Hall Annex, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Meeting Room

**Attendees:** Steven Nutter (vice chair), Tom Chase (secretary), Peter Crawley, Keith Giamportone, Fred Hewett, Lyn Huckabee, Ted Live, John Ullman, Trisha Montalbo, Jerrad Pierce, Keren Schlomy, Julie Wormser; *staff:* John Bolduc

*Guests:* Alison Frisella, Bernardo Garcia, Carolina Villarreal

1. The meeting was convened at 6:05 PM. The October minutes were approved with the correction that Lyn was not present.

#### **2. ETP Director's Report (John Bolduc)**

- The City issued the Urban Forest Master Plan Technical Report on November 12. The report is online in the Public Works area of the City website. Consultants will provide a 40-page summary report within 2–3 months.
- The Boston/New England chapter of the Urban Land Institute issued its “Living With Heat” report, which is now available online.
- The Climate Resilience Zoning Task Force met on November 6. The Task Force is considering 13 zoning design strategies for flood resilience, heat resilience, and emergency preparedness.
- Voting on new measures in the International Energy Conservation Code, which serves as the basis for the Massachusetts building code, will occur this month. Several departments of City government are involved. The process will yield a new building code for the state in 2021.
- There is a significant push to have the state Board of Building Regulation and Standards develop a stretch code that is more stringent than the current. A stronger stretch code would provide a regulatory path for the City to achieve its net-zero emissions goals. Cambridge is working with the Department of Energy Resources and has made its comments to the BBRS.
- MassDevelopment issued a solicitation for its 2020 Property Assessed Clean Energy financing program. The City must decide whether it will opt in to the program.

#### **3. Net Zero Action Plan Progress Report (Seth Federspiel)**

CPAC is drafting a letter to the City Manager which will accompany the NZAP progress report. The Committee reviewed member comments on the letter made to date and agreed on some new revisions. Much of the discussion was about how to structure the regulation for year-over-year building performance improvements in a manner that would be fair and effective for high-performing and low-performing buildings.

The Committee approved the additional revisions in a unanimous vote. Seth will incorporate the agreed-upon language into a new draft and forward it to the CPAC chair. He is available for further consultation in December if necessary.

#### **4. Consumption and GHG Emissions**

The Committee discussed a draft framework for a joint subcommittee (with the Recycling Advisory Committee) to study how the City can reduce GHG emissions by influencing consumption patterns and behaviors. There is overlap between this project and the Circular Economy work going on elsewhere in CDD, so there may be opportunities to share information.

The Committee agreed that recommendations in the subcommittee's deliverable may include individual actions as well as new policies and directions for further study. After some minor wording changes, the revised draft was approved unanimously.

#### **5. Member Reports**

(Lyn) News of a large (1100 units) passive house multifamily housing development in Charlestown.

(Julie) Noted that Resilient Mystic Collaborative has applied for an MVP grant to work on regional infrastructure and storm hardening around Boston Harbor (a multi-community initiative).

(Lyn) High school students have produced a documentary on the Merrimack Valley gas leak.

(Steve) Green Cambridge, Mothers Out Front, and 350 Mass are working together to help residents develop gas-free homes.

(Lauren) Noted the Environmental Business Council of New England has an upcoming forum on Building Climate Resilience into Infrastructure, 11/22.

Meeting adjourned at 7:47 PM.

*Notes submitted by Fred Hewett*