

Climate Committee Meeting Minutes

January 12, 2023

Peter Crawley, note-taker

Quorum was achieved. Members present included: David Rabkin, Steven Nutter, Julie Wormser, Peter Crawley, Rosalie Anders, Ted Live, Trisha Montalbo, Jerrylyn Huckabee, Jerrad Pierce

Director's Report:

- BEUDO: January 24 Economic Development Committee will continue discussion of BEUDO, including Eversource projections/planning re: adequate electrical infrastructure to support projected development
- City Council Roundtable re: Coastal Interventions to prepare for climate change impacts will be scheduled soon.
- Follow-up on Federal Grant application for Geo-thermal grid funding occurred this week. Committee Chair Rabkin wrote support letter on behalf of Climate Committee.

Lynn Huckabee asked if City of Cambridge would provide public comment regarding the implementation and data management of smart meters in Massachusetts. If meeting schedule allow, Climate Committee will also consider providing public comment to State.

Public attendee, CRLS student Leah O'Connell informs Committee about communications regarding climate change and environmental matters at CRLS.

Climate Committee new member applications: portal went live on January 10, on City website and applicants can apply for Committee membership online. All current Climate Committee member terms have expired so current members need to re-apply. 15 members total. 2 year terms. Applicant period ends February 28, 2023. (Winter issue of City monthly communication will center on Climate Change and will include a call to apply.) New members will join Committee starting with the April, 2023. Committee members will help distribute Call for New Members.

Proposal to invite residents to become "Cambridge Climate Ambassadors" and opt-in to an email list for communications and invitations from Climate Committee to events and help communicating with residents. Could align with "Climate Leaders" program which the City will roll-out this Spring to "train the trainers" to engage with their communities. Chair asks what connection between Climate Leaders and Climate Committee will be? Seth F. responds that this is work in progress.

NZAP Letter discussion:

Various letter edits discussed and approved. (See draft letter edits.)

Question was posed: Should Pace program be mentioned in the letter and/or be promoted by Committee? Director shares that former City Manager was opposed to Pace because it might

cause the City to foreclose on a residential property (5 units and greater), which he did not want to do – even if highly unlikely. New City Manager will review Pace and provide directive.

Climate Committee letter will accompany the CDD NZAP FY 2023 Update Report.

The Climate Committee unanimously approved the revised Committee NZAP comment letter.

There was discussion of various possible topics for future Climate Committee meetings, including a summary of available Federal, State & City incentives for building efficiency measures, and a summary of the new Opt-in Building Code.

Meeting was adjourned.