

City of Cambridge
CLIMATE PROTECTION ACTION COMMITTEE

Minutes

February 11, 2019

City Hall Annex

Attendees: Melissa Chan (chair), Peter Crawley, Keith Giamportone, Steve Lanou (for MIT), Rachel Jacobson, Ted Live, John Ullman, Trisha Montalbo, Steven Nutter, David Rabkin, Keren Schlomy, Michael Sojka, Julie Wormser, William Zamparelli; *staff:* Susanne Rasmussen, Bronwyn Cooke, John Bolduc, Seth Federspiel

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of January 10, 2019 were approved.

ETP Director's Report

- Bronwyn is working on planning the installation of 7 EV charging stations under an Eversource program.
- 7 proposals were received by the City for the Future of Mobility study RFP. The study includes electrification and autonomous vehicles.
- A public meeting about autonomous vehicles (AVs) is scheduled for March 7 at the Public Library. The meeting will discuss plans for AV testing in Cambridge.
- Legislation has been filed at the State House to regulate scooters. Cambridge is working on the design for a scooter program.
- Grant funding has been received for the City's multifamily energy efficiency and clean heating and cooling project. \$20,000 was granted by Yale University for the clean heating and cooling component. The MA Dept of Energy Resources granted \$50,000.
- The City has provided consumer protection guidance to residents about energy supply companies to do door to door outreach. The City has its own opt-out energy supply aggregation program. Some companies have been misleading. Eversource will never do door to door campaigns for energy supply, so companies that come to doors are independent. The City advises residents to never give out their account information.

Net Zero Action Plan Progress Report

Seth Federspiel, energy planner, gave a presentation overviewing the status of implementation of the Net Zero Action Plan (NZAP). The review is for the third year of the plan's implementation. As last year, Seth suggested that CPAC have a subcommittee to work on reviewing the progress report and to develop a letter from CPAC to the City Manager to accompany the report. The City will do a full review of NZAP in year 5.

Rachel asked if there is a way for CPAC to be informed in a timely manner when ordinances are proposed so that the committee can be involved?

Peter wondered by multi-family buildings are defined as 5-50 units. Seth said this aligns with the MassSave program. 1 to 4 units is considered single family for the purpose of energy efficiency programs and 5 and up are under the multi-family program.

The progress report is formatted to rate each NZAP recommendation with a red/yellow/green light designation to indicate the recommendation is not making progress, has made some progress but is not on track, and is on track, respectively.

David questioned the financial criteria used in the recommendations which is for a 2 year payback. He thought this is too low if we are to achieve massive energy reductions. Seth thought we might include CPAC representatives in the BEUDO phase 2 stakeholder discussions. Rachel asked if energy performance can be tracked as portfolios of buildings when owners have to report under BEUDO and have multiple buildings.

Julie asked if Cambridge can meet its net zero goals if no changes are made at the state, such as the building code. Seth said that NZAP is using a performance approach and is in the same lane as the building code.

Seth proposed that he come back to the committee in a few months to discuss the City's capacity to implement NZAP.

For the subcommittee to work with Seth on the progress report, Keren, Rachel, Steven, and David volunteered.

Net Zero Transportation

Bronwyn presented data on transportation emissions in Cambridge from the Cambridge GHG inventory (summary attached) and also briefly discussed the Carbon Free Boston report which includes a chapter on transportation. She asked the committee to think about whether there are data sets that we need to plan for net zero transportation. The discussion will be continued with Susanne to help the City think about what a net zero transportation framework might look like.

Member Reports

Rachel noted an upcoming interfaith climate change forum for March 10 that is organized by CREW/350MA with Boston area faith leaders.

Notes by John Bolduc