



## GREEN ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

MONDAY, October 18, 2021

6:00 pm

\*VIRTUAL MEETING\*

**Members Present:** Eric Hudson, Dennis Loria, Mary Smith, Cameren Cousins

**Associate Member:** Peter Berry

**Sustainability Director:** Andrea Becerra

**ABRSD Energy Manager:** Kate Crosby

Mr. Hudson called the meeting to order at 6:03PM via a virtual meeting with no Board Members in physical attendance are using the via Zoom.us virtual meeting platform.

Mr. Hudson called roll attendance:

Mr. Hudson - present

Mr. Loria – present

Ms. Smith - present

Ms. Cousins -- present

### 1) **Business**

#### 1. **Chair position**

- Eric Hudson summarized last meeting: Mr. Hudson and Mr. Loria expressed interest in leaving Chair and Co-Chair position. Ms. Smith expressed interest in becoming Chair and Ms. Cousins expressed interest in becoming Co-Chair
- Ms. Cousins noted that it's a busy year and that given logistics suggested that Ms. Smith be Chair and she be secondary Chair or Vice Chair.
- Mr. Hudson noted that Ms. Smith would be the main Chair and the importance of Ms. Cousins being able to step in if Ms. Smith is unable to for example, chair a meeting.
- Mr. Loria noted that everyone in the GAB is available to support.
- Ms. Crosby thanks Mr. Hudson and Mr. Loria for their years of dedication and work.
- Mr. Hudson makes a motion for the GAB to appoint Mary Smith as Chair of the Green Advisory Board and Cameren Cousins as Co-Chair of the Green Advisory Board.
  - Mr. Loria seconds
  - Mr. Hudson- Aye
  - Mr. Loria -Aye
  - Ms. Cousins – Aye
  - Ms. Smith – Aye
  - The Board voted 4-0, motion carries.

#### 2. **Extended Producer Responsibility letter**

- Ms. Becerra shared screen with information as a follow-up to previous discussion on EPR that resident Rob Gogan introduced to the GAB. She shared the submission on Municipal Waste Costs on Select Materials and the draft letter of support: <http://doc.acton-ma.gov/dsweb/View/Collection-14225>
- Mr. Hudson supports GAB supporting Mr. Gogan's presentation to the Board to consider EPR.
- Ms. Smith and Mr. Loria also described their support for this.
- Ms. Cousins is not sure she can get behind it in way it's written right now.
- Mr. Berry notes another way to support an effort to reduce single-use plastic is by banning styrofoam.
- Ms. Becerra noted that if the GAB would like to learn more she can bring an expert on the topic, Waneta Trabert who is Sustainable Materials Management Director in Newton, which recently passed an EPR.

### **3. Climate Action Plan updates**

- Ms. Becerra provided an update to the GAB on the CAP Open House that took place on October 16, 2021 and noted that updates can also be found on the Climate Action Plan blog: <https://www.acton-ma.gov/Blog.aspx?CID=15>
- Ms. Crosby provided an update on the CAP work that the students have been leading, including a survey that had received over 100 students.

### **4. DCR Urban and Community Forestry Program - Grant Application - Support Letter request from GAB**

- Ms. Becerra summarized grant that Corey York, DPW Director, is applying for and is seeking support from the GAB.
- Ms. Smith suggests including information about existing protection; Ms. Cousins suggests including the Nature-Based solutions group; Mr. Berry highlights Ms. Cousin's comments and supports including a mention of the work in the CAP process to highlight the role of trees.
- Mr. Hudson offers to read the letter and finalize once Ms. Becerra reviews. Mr. Hudson makes a motion to vote to support this letter that the GAB will send in support of this grant application.
  - Ms. Cousins – second
  - Ms. Smith – Aye
  - Mr. Hudson – Aye
  - Mr. Loria – Aye
  - Ms. Cousins – Aye
  - The Board voted 4-0, motion carries.

## **2) Adjournment**

Mr. Hudson makes a motion to close the meeting at 7:02PM

Ms. Loria -- seconds

Ms. Smith – aye

Mr. Loria – aye

Mr. Hudson – aye

Ms. Cousins -- aye

The Board voted 4-0, motion carries; meeting adjourned