

GREEN ADVISORY BOARD
MEETING MINUTES – May 9, 2023

6:00pm

Hybrid Meeting

GAB Members In-person: Mary Smith, Cameren Cousins

Town Staff In-Person: Andrea Becerra, Jim Snyder-Grant (Selectperson)

GAB Members Virtual: Erik Larson, Partha Krishnan, Eric Hudson

6:04 – Mary calls meeting to order and reads the hybrid meeting statement. Attendees are advised that the meeting is being recorded.

1. No comments from public/other attendees.
2. Logistics for future meetings.
 - a. The Board generally agrees that in-person is more productive and meaningful than Zoom, and members will make efforts to be here in the future.
 - b. If traveling, Zooming is still an option.
 - c. Rescheduling is an option for complex topics – take it case-by-case.
3. Town Meeting update.
 - a. Articles 12 and 13 (Specialized Opt-in Stretch Code and Fossil Fuel Ban Pilot, respectively) passed with great support.
 - b. Next steps: Town Staff needs to work on implementation of both pieces of legislation. For example, they need to address possible loopholes for renovation thresholds and the like.
 - c. Article 6 also passed, providing funding for 60% design creation for new DPW project. This upcoming phase will dig into energy modeling and finite numbers.
4. GAB engagement.
 - a. As green projects and plans accelerate in town, how do GAB members and Town staff collaborate and advance sustainability quickly?
 - b. Opportunities: GAB members supporting Andrea in various meetings and projects; Jim Snyder-Grant updating GAB members on what community groups are currently doing; GAB members giving presentations at Board meetings
 - c. Challenges: Scheduling, time commitment.
5. Acton Power Choice update.
 - a. Rates are public, but notice has not gone out yet to customers. New contract/pricing goes into effect in December.
 - b. Select Board wished to add another 5% renewables to the Standard option, up to 45% from the last contract's 40%; Standard will be at 69% (45 + 24% mandated renewables).
 - c. With most recent contract (2021-2023), there was some customer dropdown to the Basic rate; still, more than 80% of customers in APC are in the Standard/69% renewables option.
 - d. There are plans for designing promotional efforts later this year to advertise lower prices, in cooperation with Green Acton.

6. Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness.

- a. The Town is applying for an MVP 2.0 grant from the state; an update to the 2018 plan is beneficial right now. There is a focus in the grant structure on resilience and putting addressing climate challenges at the forefront.
- b. This round pairs planning with more specific implementation steps.
- c. GAB can add to the letter about what specifically it hopes to see out of the grant and planning process.

7. Meeting Minutes

- a. Eric Hudson moves to approve February and March meeting minutes; Cameren seconds. Approved unanimously.

7:00 – Cameren moves to end the meeting; Mary seconds. Approved unanimously.