

**MINUTES: MEETING OF THE STOUGHTON CLIMATE ACTION PLAN  
COMMITTEE, MONDAY AUGUST 28, 2023.**

**[Approved September 11, 2023)**

This meeting was a hybrid; in-person at Town Hall-Fitzpatrick Room, and remotely using Google Meets webinar format.

In Attendance:

Molly Cochran, Chair  
Laura Gunn, Vice-Chair  
Rachel Lazerus (remote)  
Janet Weinstein  
Michael Horan  
James Conlon

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Motion to open the meeting by Mr. Horan, seconded by Ms. Gunn, Motion passed unanimously and meeting opened at 7:00 pm.

Review and posting of Minutes

The Committee voted to adopt the Minutes from the August 14, 2023 meeting with amendments.

Mission Statement of the Committee

The Committee agreed on minor edits to the Mission Statement submitted by Ms. Gunn. Motion to adopt by Ms. Lazerus, seconded by Ms. Weinstein; motion passed 6-0.

Outline of Universe of Actions—member interests

The Committee discussed exploring other towns' climate action plans as related to specific issues on the Committee's Outline.

Ms. Lazarus noted that this is a living document.

Several members expressed interest in working on select elements in the Outline: Ms. Lazerus, Waste; Ms. Gunn, Public Health; Ms. Cochran, Energy/ GG Reduction and Building Codes; Mr. Horan, Nature-Based; Ms. Weinstein, Communications/outreach.

Ms. Lazerus suggested that a priority for the Committee would be “quick wins.”

Ms. Cochran asked whether there was anything the Committee wanted to bring before Town Meeting in the Spring.

Mr. Conlon noted the lack of sufficient stormwater management in certain subdivisions and that if DPW were to ask for funding for this, the Committee should support it.

Ms. Gunn suggested that we should be aware of any agreements, etc., mandated by specific trusts, that might come under the Committee's purview..

#### Community Engagement plan

Ms. Cochran proposed looking into opportunities available via schools. Discussion included inviting students as student reps, possible internships, and science fair projects. Ms. Cochran also noted that Gloucester has a detailed community engagement plan. Ms. Lazerus and Ms. Gunn agreed to work on establishing contacts with schools.

The Committee also discussed creating an opinion survey. Ms. Horan and Ms. Lazarus agreed to create a printable survey for dissemination at Stoughton Days.

#### Website—Social Media

Ms. Lazerus expressed interest in creating a Facebook page.

Ms. Cochran to contact Trish Shropshire about a web page.

#### Grants update

Ms. Cochran noted that we do not need to re-apply for the MAPC grant. She will follow up with EEA and MAPC.

Ms. Cochran has also been in touch with Senator Markey's office, who explained that the IRA has a guide with links to funding opportunities.

#### Response of Town regarding grant opportunities

Ms. Cochran has contacted Marc Tisdale and sent him an opportunity for electrified large vehicles; Mr. Tisdale responded that his office is currently too busy, but can assist us if need be.

Ms. Cochran also proposed holding a remote meeting with town officials to understand their various roles.

Mr. Conlon agreed to invite Pam MacCarthy to our next meeting.

Mr. Conlon added that Horsley and Whitten created an Open Space report for Stoughton which ran between \$50-100k. He will provide the Committee with copies.

Ms. Cochran noted that we'll need to see what we might get from MAPC and EEA grants. Mr. Conlon stated that we won't see any grants before the end of the year, so if we are going to make

any requests from Town Meeting we need to do so now. He stressed the importance of external expertise, leadership, and coordination. Ms. Cochran stated that the Committee can make the December deadline for filing an Article for Spring TM, and if something plays out in the meantime, the Committee can drop the article. Mr. Conlon urged making a request of Special Town Meeting and the need to get started as soon as possible. Ms. Cochran did not believe the Committee has time to make the September deadline.

Mr. Conlon suggested that the Committee contact John Linehan, Open Space, re funding proposals.

Ms. Cochran suggested the Committee talk to other towns about how they were funded, asking how they were funded, whether they received grants, and whether they hired consultants. Ms. Lazarus to contact Sudbury, Ms. Cochran, Acton, and Ms. Weinstesin, Gloucester.

#### Action Items:

Ms. Cochran—Contact Pam McCarty; contact John Linehan re Open Space; contact Acton re their Committee funding; contact Trish re web site.

Ms. Lazerus—annotate the Outline; reach out to schools exploring possibility of relationships with students and teachers, contacting Sudbury re funding.

Mr. Horan—creating survey

Ms. Weinstein—creating survey, contacting Gloucester

Ms. Gunn—reaching out to schools

#### Next Meeting

Monday, September 11.

Motion to adjourn by Mr Horan, passed by unanimous vote.

Minutes taken by Michael Horan, Secretary.