

Minutes Green Marblehead Committee/Net Zero Planning December 15, 2022 (draft)

Approved at 3/2/23 meeting

Present: Brooks Winner, Becky Curran Cutting, Thatcher Kezer, Lisa Wolf, Andrew Petty, Alexa Singer, John Livermore, Eileen Mathieu, members of the public.

Minutes of previous meetings:

Oct 27, 2022: Approved with change of formatting

Nov 22, 2022: Approved

Updates:

Andrew Petty reviewed his recent trip to a new waste to energy plant

Becky Cutting advised that a new high density housing project is approved for the General Glover site and will include compost pick up, will be built to stretch code, and will have EV chargers at 15% of parking spaces. She said that MMLD will be supplying the electricity, to this development.

Lisa Wolf stated that Light Board has budgeted a Sustainability Manager position for \$100,000 salary in the 2023 budget.

Eileen stated that Sustainable Marblehead is moving ahead with a plan for a “Green Homes Tour” in April 2023, modeled after historic homes or garden tours, to highlight new electric technologies for heating and cooling homes, hot water heaters, clothes dryers, induction stoves, etc.

Discussion of Town position for Energy manager:

Thatcher updated that he was thinking of a position paying \$80,000, plus benefits, but he is just starting budget process, trying to figure out how to pay for position until the money that such a position will bring to the town from grants and from savings rolls in. Pointed out that he has several positions that need to be created such as an HR director, an IT director.

He explained that he did a brief presentation to the Selectboard about the GMC and informed them that GMC is getting ready to release our larger report, after the holidays, but that since hiring a Sustainability Coordinator or Energy Manager is one of our top recommendations and has budget implications, he was giving them a heads up. Also reported that he spoke with a director of facilities at another community that had some positive comments about the savings from their sustainability coordinator, which has a similar job description to what Marblehead is discussing, and who has brought in lots of funding and grants.

Updated Net Zero Roadmap presentation:

To Select Board:

Discussion of when to present the full Net Zero plan to the Selectboard (SB), given the pressures of Budget Season on the SB, yet the need to get the idea or line item included in the budget. John asked about presenting to SB before they prepare final budget at end of January. Alexa felt that mid to late January would be in enough time. Becky made a motion which was adopted: that Green Marblehead Committee (GMC) request formally to be on the SB agenda at the second meeting in January; so the chair of GMC will write such a letter to chair of SB. Our Chair is now Thatcher Kezer, town administrator.

At GMC next meeting, Jan 5, 2023, will plan that presentation to SB. Brooks will send draft PowerPoint for SB presentation to Becky and Thatcher, for feedback. Expect that initial presenter will be Thatcher Kezer, Brooks Winner will be the "subject matter expert" who will follow up, Becky Cutting may also speak. Exact details to be determined. Thatcher suggested teaser intro, brevity, core message, then allow significant time for questions.

To Town:

After much discussion it was decided to hold such a public meeting by Zoom, on February 15 at 6 PM. It will have a preregistration link to prevent Zoom bombing.

Suggested structure: presentation followed by Q+A vs presentation followed by breakout rooms. Plan not to do breakout rooms, unless many attendees (?over 40?). Approach: this is a near final draft, happy to accept comments, and feedback, might edit slightly based on feedback, but we don't want a ton of new ideas, this is just a temperature check, what's missing, what don't you like. Also, it was suggested to post the draft report on the Town website, in advance of the public meeting, so people could read beforehand.

To Community:

Plan to take out to Town Boards that might be affected:

Partial list: Planning Board, Old and Historic District, Conservation Commission, Zoning, Board of Health, Tree Dept, MMLB, School Dept, Building Commissioner.

Plan to take to community groups:

Chamber of Commerce, Marblehead Ministerial Association, Rotary, Neighborhood Associations, Marblehead Conservancy, Gerry Five, Council on Aging, Yacht Clubs, others

To be discussed at future meetings after presentation to Select Board is ready

Respectfully submitted by Eileen Mathieu, January 4, 2023