

Minutes Green Marblehead Committee/Net Zero Planning Jan 18, 2022

Approved at March 3, 2022 meeting

Present: Becky Curran-Cutting, Brooks Winner, Joe Kowalik, Steve Poulos, Alexa Singer, Andrew Petty, Riley Piva(MAPC), Eileen Mathieu, John Livermore

Minutes of Nov, Dec, and first Jan Meeting were sent and people should review and then we can vote to accept/modify next meeting.

Engagement Outreach Document sent by Brooks is a survey that involves click and Brooks will change to a non-click type survey to make more accessible to folks in community.

Members of GMC were asked to take 3 people to contact on the outreach list and email those 3 contacts the outreach document.

Key Impactful Actions List:

Discussion how to synthesize the many actions listed, some we have received from community, some MAPC offers as part of Net Zero roadmap.

Categories of actions include: Building thermal; Mobility/transportation; Energy; Education and Outreach; Nature Based Solutions

Suggestions included adding a column for strategy and possibly link many actions that would accomplish the strategy under it. Possibly add a column for timeline to guide what should be done first.

Evaluation Criteria discussion:

Brooks outlined the 5 criteria that MAPC recommends using to evaluate “key impactful actions”.

GHG Reduction Potential

Equity Consideration

Co-benefit potential

Level of effort to implement to Town Staff

Cost to Implement, to Town or to residents

Brooks recommended a 5 point score for each category:

5 if significant contribution, 3 if some contribution, 1 if no contribution

Brooks explained Equity criteria: Makes clean energy technology accessible to low income people, seniors, disabled.

General discussion of the above criteria and weighting system: how to evaluate or incorporate net present value, opportunity costs, energy costs you are not saving, the cost of doing nothing. There was a suggestion that there be a sixth criteria, the cost of doing nothing.

Joe Kowalik and Eileen suggested that actions that reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions should be highlighted and ranked first or weighted more. Joe suggested a point total of 100, and actions with significant GHG Reduction potential would get 50 points, and all other actions could be given 10 points each maximum.

All agreed to keep the calculations transparent with clear criteria, so the public knows how GMC ranked the different actions.

Alexa suggested that we communicate cost of now vs later, and how unforeseen circumstances might make it wise to do a seemingly costly retrofit early, such as to replace your gas or oil furnace soon, because later it will cost more, for many reasons, including that cost of fossil fuels will cost rise or there will be a price on carbon, or the materials to get Air Source Heat Pumps as they become mandated, will rise.

We asked Riley if the Town of Acton had developed a tool to rank their possible actions and if she could inform us about that. Acton just released its Net Zero Plan and Actions.

Brooks suggested that we think of this roadmap to Net Zero as a messaging tool to influence the levers of change.

John suggested that we try to quantify future costs/risks, and have resources in this roadmap document.

Alexa suggested far reaching goals but also immediate cost saving and immediate impact actions, not ones with a 20 year payback or savings, not a large time gap to rewards.

Brooks said that the Feds are acting like things are not urgent, but the stakes are high, to stop putting all these emissions in the atmosphere, soon, not a delayed (until 2050) timeline. He will try to factor in short term increased cost for longer term environmental gain, and use a broader scope.

Plan: Riley and Brooks will simplify and reduce the many impactful actions. Then the GMC will review their list and prioritize at next meeting. They will keep a list of the actions they “cut”.

Next meeting: Feb 3 Thursday, at 3-430 PM, Barbara Warren will present from 4-430 on CZM.

Second Feb meeting: Feb 15, Tuesday, at 4 PM, work further on impactful actions, try to get them down to 50 + recommendations.

Goal is Net Zero Plan with list of substantive actions, for a 5-10 year action plan, needs to be manageable, get the community well on the path, but also needs mechanism to reevaluate this Net Zero Plan to see if it is working, adapt, improve.

Respectfully submitted by Eileen Mathieu, Feb 2, 630 PM