

MEETING OF THE CLIMATE ACTION PLAN COMMITTEE

Monday, March 31, 2025

7:00 pm

Yaitanes Room –Town Hall

Google Meet joining info

Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/cie-rgns-vmx>

Or dial: (US) +1 252-656-5323 PIN: 503 642 721#

Present:

Molly Cochran, chair

Michael Horan

Mark Racicot

Aisha Oyolede-Edward

James Conlon

Rachel Lazerus, secretary

AGENDA

1. Welcome: Mr. Horan made a motion to open the meeting, Mr. Racicot seconded: meeting officially began at 7:05 PM via unanimous roll-call vote.

2. Review of Minutes: Mr. Horan made a motion to accept the minutes from March 17th, Mr. Racicot seconded: minutes were approved unanimously via roll-call vote.

3. MAPC Update: Four members of the CAP committee (Ms. Cochran, Mr. Horan, Ms. Lazerus, and Ms. Oyolede-Edward) had a very productive meeting with MAPC on March 28th. MAPC has officially extended the timeline of the project through January 2026 due to delays with the grant. Committee is hopeful to get three or four exciting ideas started, including planting 300 trees for 300th anniversary. Town Planner Bill Roth is moving forward to encumber the funds from Town Meeting. Ms. Cochran mentioned focusing on actions items that are in the Venn diagram intersection of being both climate effective and of having other benefits even for people who don't believe in climate change.

4. Neponset River Watershed Association: Ms. Cochran attended a focus group meeting by the NEPWRA, who are doing a one-year project about building climate resilience in Stoughton. They would be happy to appear on SMAC

5. SMAC Appearance: Ms. Lazerus needs to follow up with David Walsh about appearing on Around Town.

6. Earth Day (Tuesday April 22): Committee discussed what kind of message we should put out for Earth Day. Ms. Cochran suggested promoting the Massachusetts Clean Energy Center, which talks about all of the appliances around the house that can lower greenhouse emissions.

7. Citizens Climate Lobby: There was a 501c4 climate lobbying training at the library that attracted about 15 people (half of them young) and mostly not from Stoughton. Several people volunteered to start an 8th Congressional District climate lobbying group.

8. Other business that cannot be anticipated:

Ms. Lazerus brought up that weekly recycling will start April 22nd. The town has just ordered more recycling bins at the armory on Pleasant Street.

Jane Mooney contacted the CAPC to let the committee know that First Parish Universalist Church hosting a Green Fair on May 17th and wants to partner with the town with having compost/rain barrel to promote. They're looking for someone to discuss recycling issues.

Ms. Lazerus noted that her kids' school is doing a Going Green project and is talking to people about recycling/composting programs to be instituted in the future.

Mr. Racicot discussed an upcoming grant possibility.

Ms. Oyolede-Edward suggested that it might be useful to meet monthly rather than bimonthly, especially given the approach of Town Meeting.

Mr. Conlon requested that the committee send a letter in support of the NEPRWA's proposed project. Mr. Horan made a motion to have the letter be signed, Ms. Lazerus seconded, and the roll-call vote was unanimous for Mr. Conlon to send.

9. Public Comment (name/precinct): n/a

Mr. Horan made a motion to end the meeting, Mr. Conlon seconded, meeting adjourned by unanimous roll-call vote at 8:07

Next meeting April 14th at 7:00.

Approved 4/14/25