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STOUGHTON ENERGY AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
June 21, 2023

The Committee held a meeting at the Library on June 21, 2023 commencing at 7:00 pm. In attendance were Nathan Cleveland, Chair, Dave Billo, Vice-Chair, and members Arthur Rigor da Eva and Molly Cochran. The Committee approved the meeting minutes for April 5, 2023 and June 7, 2023 as amended.

Arthur graciously presented Committee members with Greta Thunburg's *The Climate Book*.

The Committee voted to appoint Molly as the Committee's designee on the newly formed Town Climate Action Plan Committee (CAP Committee).

The Committee discussed the distinction between the role of the Committee and the CAP Committee. Nathan indicated that in his mind, the CAP Committee would be focused on conceptualizing what should be in the CAP and turning that into a written plan as to items that the Town should undertake, a task with a wide range of elements.

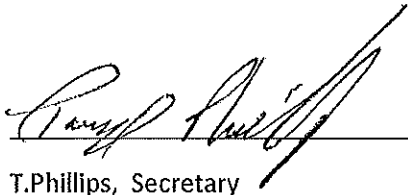
There was some discussion of the Committee's mission statements and its historical work, including the greenhouse gas inventory, qualifying for Green Communities designation and grants, and the hiring of the Town Energy Manager. Arthur indicated that the CAP Committee's work should relate to Planning Board issues.

Discussion followed concerning the proposal by Steve Wilkinson regarding a town plastic water bottle ban. There was no formal vote, because there is no specific by-law proposed, but it was the sense of the Committee that we would support the measure, but that we would not focus a lot of time on the issue. Arthur suggested that we should promote water refill stations.

Nathan reported on the Select Board's new solid waste proposal, which would involve a pay-as-you-throw system, rather than a flat rate. He noted that the solid waste removal rates had not been raised in years and there was a structural deficit that would affect the Town's bond rating. Nathan discussed the details of the proposed program, including that there would be no changes to curbside recycling. Nathan posited why no one had asked the Committee to review the proposal. At the Select Board meeting, Nathan had spoken in favor of the proposal, as it is a great way to incentivize residents to stop throwing everything away.

Dave discussed the check from Abington Bank in support of the April library event. He indicated that he would need to appear before the Select Board to have them accept the check.

The meeting adjourned close to 9:00 pm. The next Committee meeting will be July 19th at the Library.



T. Phillips, Secretary

8.25.23

Date