

Town of Kennebunk
NOTES (Summary Highlights & Decisions)
Energy Efficiency Committee Meeting
August 4, 2021: 3:45 – 5:30 PM

Present: M&N Bartenhagen, Berry, Pratt, Dater.
Attendee: Kari Gates, resident

It is with heavy heart the Committee acknowledges Chair Sharon Staz's passing before the August 4th meeting. Sharon was a pillar of strength with her fierce dedication to the energy efficiency and climate crises mitigation goals of the Committee, the Town, the State and world. She is irreplaceable but the Committee is determined to carry on her good work as best we can in her honor. But Sharon was even more, she was and is our friend. RIP Sharon – we will never forget you.

MINUTES. Review of recent meeting Minutes were tabled to the next meeting.

CLIMATE CHANGE INITIATIVES.

- M Bartenhagen is to meet with Tom Herrod of ICLEI (International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives) on climate change based on the scientific data on GHG (green house gas) emissions data in town collected by TNS students in 2018.
- ICLEI goal in its 'Race to Zero' program is to promote actionable work plans by towns targeted to 2030. Then by 2050 achieve net zero fossil fuel emissions.
- EEAC must first endorse the principles of the ICLEI program to meet the Paris climate Accords, then ICLEI would help Kennebunk pursue its own targets in two or three high impact areas to cut GHG emissions.
- The 2019 town intern from UNH pulled together the TNS data using ICLEI software at no cost to the Town. But there would be cost to implement the Town's chosen targets, for example purchasing
- zero-emission vehicles for the Police, Fire Department, Public Services Department, etcetera. It was suggested that the Town could also retrofit oil burners for building heating by Kari Gates.

EDUCATION FOR RACE TO ZERO FOR GHG EMISSIONS. The effort by SMPD, Wells Reserve and EEAC to pursue educational outreach is not related to the RACE TO ZERO effort by ICLEI. These are two separate, although obviously related, activities. What could be said is that SMPD and Wells Reserve are working with the EEAC to address the next steps beyond their completed report to York, Wells and Kennebunk on the Tides, Taxes and New Tactics project, which is educational outreach and then presumably implementation of recommendations to address sea-level rise challenges in these communities.

KENNEBUNKPORT CLIMATE INITIATIVE.

- Jono Anzalone is the Director of the Kennebunkport Climate Initiative actively working on climate change mitigation strategies locally, as well as state wide. The EEAC is working with KCI, Wells Reserve and SMPD to host a "listening session" for the Kennebunk community in early October on climate concerns. This event would request registration to attend and invitations would be sent to Municipal officials in Wells, York and Kennebunk, as well as widely advertised in the Town of Kennebunk. Kennebunkport Climate Initiative has experience in organizing such sessions, and would work with local youth to help facilitate this.
- Perhaps a booth at the Kennebunk farmers' Market could be set-up to provide Race to Zero information to citizens, but there may be a lack of EEAC members to man the booth. This is unrelated to the KCI ~ but was suggested by Kari Gates as a way to make more visible the efforts of the EEAC, and perhaps encourage more people to join the Committee.
- Although Kennebunk Municipal officials appear to be stretched thin, the Committee hopes they would find time to attend such a listening session. There would be no cost to the Town if the Waterhouse Center were the chosen location, and if event organizers set-up and cleaned up

afterwards. The only thing needed would be to identify an entity that would be willing to lend folding chairs for the event.

- A model for gathering information from the community on climate issues would be the Tina Ridell survey recently sent out regarding townspeople's views on living in Kennebunk. Perhaps this could be combined with a listening session and, if successful, expanded to include other entities.

LED STREET LIGHT CONVERSION. After Committee's July 14th meeting Staz and M Bartenhagen met with Chris Osterrieder, Town Development Director on the draft RFQ. Staz collected comments from EEAC members and forwarded to Osterrieder, some of which were incorporated. KLPD has not to date worked with EEAC on the RFQ. The RFQ states that the Town owns the street lights not the KLPD.

PROBLEM STREET LIGHT ON FLETCHER STREET. After EEAC Committee Member Anthony Dater temporarily recused himself from continued attendance at the meeting, the remainder of the committee discussed options for addressing and redressing the issue of persisting intrusion of LED light from a KLPD streetlight on a pole located at the apices of Fletcher and Storer streets that was trespassing onto Mr. Dater's property and especially significant levels of fixture light intruding into those rooms of Mr. Dater's home facing the streetlight approximately 120 feet west of his home at 53 Fletcher Street. The committee had first notified Kennebunk Light & Power's General Manager Todd Shea of this problem in January 2021.

After Mr. Dater had left the meeting room, the following points were discussed. Mr. Shea had recently indicated in an email that a shielding device had in fact been attached to the light-emitting portion of the luminaire. However, subsequent to receipt of this email, the invasive light entering Mr. Dater's home had not appreciably diminished, if at all. Furthermore, subsequent daylight inspection of the offending fixture by several committee members revealed no recognizable evidence of a significant, adequately-sized shielding device over the east-facing light-emitting segment of the offending luminaire. The apparent absence of a recognizable functional shield was in evident conflict with Mr. Shea's previous email, excluding the possibility that a shield had in fact been fixed as claimed, but had not been securely attached and had then shortly fallen off the luminaire.

The other members of the EEA Committee agreed to recommend that Mr. Dater try once more to work in person in a continuing cooperative manner through Town Manager Pardue to redress this extraordinarily prolonged irresolution. Upon his return to the meeting room and informed of the outcome of our discussion, Mr. Dater agreed to abide by this recommendation.

NEXT MEETING. Wednesday September 8th, 6:30 PM. TBD whether meeting will be in-person at Town Hall or by ZOOM. Election of officers for 2021/22 was tabled to the September meeting.