

Energy Committee Meeting
Tuesday, November 26, 2024
Town Office or on Zoom @ 4:30 pm

Committee members present: Nancy Chandler, Victor Langelo, Nick Whatley (Co-chair), Yvette Meunier (Co-chair), Jackie Cressy, Victoria Boundy.

Committee members absent: None

Others: Mark Walz, Town Manager; Meg Rasmussen, MCOG

Agenda

Nick chaired the meeting.

Invitation for Public Comment: None

Approval of [10-22-24 meeting minutes](#); no discussion; Victor Motion; Victoria 2nd, AIF

Staff updates:

Selectboard update on December 5: EC is an adhoc committee. The EC mission to accomplish the CAP will be completed in May; the committee can continue but we should discuss before the 12/5 meeting and then show up at that meeting.

Old Business:

1. Discuss November Workshop with Julia & Meg
 - Members felt the workshop went well. Good turnout, active participants.
 - Everyone should use microphones and moderator should repeat the questions so everyone can hear.
 - Too many actions and too many stickers.
 - Actions already in progress (e.g. Fair Mall study) should not have been on the list for voting.
 - The presentations were great - clear and simplified.
 - The next workshop will be outlining actions that the communities think are priorities (reflecting it back and asking if what we heard is right). It will be a format with more Q&A. We will make sure that we are using the mic. Use a flipchart to note what people are saying so everyone can see.
2. Review CAP timeline with Meg
 - a. Town Meeting in May - if SB decides to include this on the warrant.
 - b. April; SB might want their own public hearing on the CAP.
 - c. Have the Plan ready to go in March in case SB decides to hold a public hearing for the CAP.
 - d. 3rd workshop - early February (date to be set at the next EC meeting), so that when EC meets in late Feb we can review comments (Meg will check with FB to make sure she can get everything from them in time)

- e. In advance of workshop, advertise draft Plan for community input (some ideas: Use electronic sign, put poster with QR code in town office lobby)
- f. Meg will need to get info sooner from FB - December or January
- g. Appendices, SV draft and GGH draft - Committee review in December

Meg requested some 'Day in the Life' photos of Topsham in all seasons to include in the Plan. Josh (Assistant Planner) has graphics skills and might be able to put together some for the Plan.

- 3. Consideration of a Community Action Grant [Letter of Support](#) for the Bike Ped Committee for a Streets for All project.

Bike Ped Committee is applying for a CRP Action Grant to do a Complete Streets Plan for mostly the local streets. The charge for this committee is to develop a traffic calming toolbox as well as a Complete Streets policy.

Victoria motion, Nick 2nd, AIF to approve the support letter.

- 4. Update from Nancy on work with MTA

Nancy is learning about MTA the geothermal energy system (tour from building designer; and working with the MTA Community Coordinator). Goal is to find a class of advanced Environmental students to study this and have energy tours. Also trying to get the energy dashboard in MTA working again; students will be able to access this information on their cell phones. **MTA energy tour: Friday, 12/6, 8 am, meet at MTA front door.**

Next Agenda Items

- December meeting falls on Christmas. Instead, we will meet on **Thursday, 12/19 @ 4:30.**

Nick reminded everyone to look at the Maine Won't Wait updated plan.

2nd Invitation for Public Comment: None

Motion to adjourn: Victor, Nancy 2nd, AIF. Meeting adjourned at 5:39.

Reference items:

[community engagement plan.](#)
[outreach contact list](#)