

CETF 1/10/22

4:00pm, Council Chambers

1. Call to order: 4:04PM
2. Attendance: Norm Burdzel, Jen Crandall, Ruth Poland, Kristen Murphy, Tobin Peacock, Erin Cough, Margaret Jeffrey, Sirohi, Millard and Brian are unable to attend.
3. Approval of [Minutes from 12/13/21](#) (V): Norm moved to accept the minutes from 12/13/21, and Kristen seconded. Jen, Ruth, Norm, Tobin and Kristen all approve.
4. Adoption of Agenda (V): Ruth moved to add discussion to the agenda about meeting virtually for the time being. Tobin seconded. All approved the change to the agenda as amended.
5. Public Comment? None
6. Virtual meetings: Ruth asks: should we go virtual for the next month. All in favor.
7. Regular Business--
 - A. Quick Updates: (15min)
 - 1 Virtual? See above
 - 2 Energy Benchmarking (Brian) from email: Greenhouse Gas Audit.

Getting the electricity usage records from Versant has proven even more difficult than I had hoped.

Their online tool for pulling reports doesn't work.

They were gonna check with their IT about fixing it. I followed up last week and they said they've heard nothing from Versant IT. I wonder if the holidays might have slowed stuff down but here we are.

Versant SAID they'd provide the data I needed - total KWH used for each account between July 1 2020 and June 30 2021. I haven't received those records yet.

Last case I can pull the monthly bills down from the website and pull the data that way. That will take many hours to complete but it'll still be faster than going to the town hall and pulling them from files.

I should have a better answer to this later this week.

I haven't dug into the school system records yet and presume I'll run into the same issues.

3 Support Center for Climate Integrity (CCI) litigation?

1. [Fact sheet](#)

Website quick-check - this may be something ACTT can help us with... The group is not ready to tackle this at this time, although there are some costs to the town that we could pursue in the future. Margaret is interested in perhaps working with them now to understand what kind of data to start collecting now for a future litigation. Are they willing to work with us in that capacity? Tobin:

what struck me about this is that we are still a fossil fuel dependent world and any costs that we win will get passed on to people who are least able to afford it. Norm: I don't like the optics of our group suing the oil and gas industry. Ruth: we have lots on our plate right now and don't have the staff to do the work at this time. Jen: perhaps the VISTA volunteer could start a list of cost incursions due to climate change. Ruth: make a motion to add this task of keeping track of costs the town incurs due to climate change to whatever staff we get coming up. Tobin seconds. All in favor.

4Share out on [Community Resilience Partnership](#) (CRP). ACTT can support our participation in the CRP, which can entail helping us set up our Public Forum and submitting a grant proposal. (Johannah Blackman) They can help us formally join the State's group and apply for grant money. ACTT acting as a service provider to support municipal and tribal governments. (Recommendation to apply as a cohort of local towns w/Tremont & Mt. Desert.)

What "action items" do we want to request funding for? Which would dovetail well with another town's requests?

Overview from Johanna's presentation: Review of Part 1 Gant chart and work to be done by town to stick to plan. 2022 grant cycles: March 22 deadline for summer funding, Sept 20 deadline for winter funding. Up to \$50,000 each cycle. We could join the CRP and apply for grant at the same time. Must conduct a community resilience self-eval. Done by town leaders and dept heads. Self-eval is found on CRP website. ACTT could help by hosting a meeting. Next review list of community actions and align them to local climate action plan. Then community wide session open to the public to gather feedback. If you apply for work on the community action plan, you can get outright funding, if you apply for work not on the list, you need to be willing to match funding. Step 3: Pass a resolution to join and designate committee of staff position assigned to overseeing plans and actions. Must submit report every 2 years to State. Align CRP to CAP. Questions at this time: Norm-is there any cost to the Town to participate in this or to use ACTT's help? JB: no, totally free. It aligns with ACTT goals.

Ruth-if we apply as part of a group for summer funding can we also apply again as just BH for winter funding? JB: absolutely. Margaret: will ACTT help with writing of the grant application? JB: yes. We can be involved at many levels. Norm: are we behind in the timeline? JB-not necessarily. Norm: we need to get approval from Town Council before we agree to join on. JB-resolution needs to be done by Mar 22, 2022. Erin: we have already interviewed department heads so bringing a meeting together would be easy. JB- great, but you will need to do the self-eval and other specific documents. Ruth: how late can we decide? JB: mid-Feb at the

latest. JB-ACTT can help facilitate public feedback sessions before the Town meeting in June. Ruth: curious about the community engagement piece. We have gotten far with our planning but we are missing some stuff and could use help.

Do we want to be a CRP town?

Do we want ACTT to help us?

Do we want to apply for March 22 on our own or as part of a regional group? Regional grant would be money for one item (or type of project) that would be divided among the towns.

Erin: what would we want to get done?

Tobin moves that we recommend to the Town Council that we pursue the CRP partnership; Norm seconds. All in favor. Erin will make sure it gets on the next TC agenda to discuss. Talking with department heads and the community at the same time could happen with the help of ACTT. Margaret moves that we work with ACTT to become part of CRP pending approval by the TC. Tobin seconds. All approve. Ruth will reach out to Johanna and let her know.

Ruth-regional vs town application (State made clear that they would rather fund regional grants than individual) Tremont and Mt Desert will go in together so we might want to join in for better chances of winning funding. We can then apply as an individual town once we have a clearer list of action from a sustainability coordinator.

Margaret: we need to make sure that the other towns would be willing to have us join.

On next meeting we can look at our CAP and see what will match up with the community action steps.

5 Discuss Sustainability Job Description requested by Town Council & Cornell Knight (Margaret)--will look at the Jax position description and add non-profit language (like grant seeking info), and notes from today. Should she talk with Kevin to get feedback?

Yes!!

Next Steps:

2. Send to Cornell & Kevin to request they add it to the budget. Ruth will let him know that Margaret has developed a draft of a job description. Ruth will ask him to put about \$60k in the budget for the position.
 3. If Town Council approves adding \$ to budget, the Warrant Committee and Town Council will meet in late Jan. over 3 days to review each line item. We will need a rep there whenever it comes up in order to answer questions.
 4. Can limited use parking meter funds be used for climate mitigation?
- B. Discuss [AmeriCorps Application](#) (Jen) Ruth will reach out to Bethany to see if there is anything she might use a volunteer for. It would be helpful to

have a concrete task for our VISTA person to work on. Jen handed out paper copies of the application for folks to look at and add notes to.

- C. Continue reviewing [Part 2 of CAP](#) - should we just ask Laura to work on this and we can review her edits since we are struggling to get to it? Tobin moves that Ruth hires Laura Berry to look at our notes for phase 2. Margaret seconds. All in favor.
1. Continue discussion of Land use topics
 2. Feedback from Conservation Commission on connections to Open Space Plan? (Millard)
8. Review & assign "to do" list.
9. Adjournment: Margaret moves we adjourn. All in favor. 5:24pm.

To Do:

- Connect with Park & Rec and Cons. Comm. to find commonalities in our plan and the Open Space plan - Millard
- Highlight items from the Capitol Improvement Plan (CIP) that we need to address & bring to the next meeting.

CAP Timeline: