

Task Force on the Climate Emergency
Minutes for meeting 2/22/2021, 3:30 PM.

1. Call to order: 3:32PM Jen Crandall, Tobin Peacock, Brian Booher, Kristin Murphy, Ruth Poland, Cornell Knight, Margaret Jeffery. later: Jill Goldthwait, Norm Burdzel
2. Approval of Minutes: Ruth moves to approve minutes from last time. yes--Tobin seconds. Tobin, Jen, Kristin, Ruth, Brian, Margaret
3. Adoption of Agenda: Tobin moves to adopt, Ruth seconds. yes--Tobin, Jen, Kristin, Ruth, Margaret, Brian
4. Public Comment. Ruth moves to make the chat public to all panelists and attendees. Tobin wonders if there is a way to do this without having the public be able to chat at any time, rather than just during the public comment section. This is annoying. Brian suggests using the raised hand feature. Tobin, Margaret, Jen, Kristin, Ruth, Brian all yes. We agree to revisit it if it becomes a problem.
5. Regular Business
 - A. Continuing work on Climate Action Plan-- Ruth sent out a suggested plan of attack: look at each item and identify strategy or goal and who would be responsible for moving it forward. Jill wonders about the scale of the project and when do we bring in more public input and/or a consultant. Jen and Tobin: As long as we keep our goals aligned with our by-laws we should be OK working one goal at a time. Brian says that the most we can do is educate when it comes to actions outside of recommendations to the Town. The only way we can make changes to the citizenry is through zoning. We can't make demands that will cost money. Ruth: Let's start with our first bullet point.....on doc.
 - B. Items for next meeting. Jill: there is a class at COA that is about communications to the scientific community and lay public. Ann Kozak is the instructor. The class could do a project for us. 14 students in class. Class starts March 31 and could make a presentation to the task force by June 1. We would need to have a proposed project for them by our March 8 or 22 meeting. Margaret is thinking about how to educate renters (both year-round or seasonal). Everyone: send ideas to Jill.
Fees for electrical permits for renewable uses.
Electrical codes and Mike Gurtler. (later)
Ruth suggests we all work on the plan now on our own since we have done some together.
6. Task Force Comments. Brian asked Spencer to present the ghg audit. He will come March 8. ACTT wants to present to us on a grant for piloting a microgrid.
6. Adjournment: Jill moves, Norm seconds. Margaret, Jen, Jill, Norm, Kristin, Ruth, Tobin, Brian all approve.

Future Work:

- A. Tourism carbon impact
 - i. Cruise ships

B. Climate Justice-- acknowledge impact of climate change and its disproportional impact on lower socio-economic groups and the intersectionality with other crises like racial equity. Climate change impacts developing countries exponentially more than developed countries and the developing countries are not the ones benefiting from the use of fossil fuels etc.

C. Ground mounted solar array.

D. Community composting.

E. EV chargers

F. Town based incentives for new buildings or renovations to exceed code requirements for efficiency, build electric and/or incorporating solar into design. Tax break? Cash back? What could the town actually do to incentivize? Could you forgive the first year of property taxes on a new build if there a solar array of a certain size or all electric house or passive house level insulation? A few thousand dollars might be enough to encourage some best practices.

G. Public Outreach

i. Engage the BH Chamber of Commerce