



GREEN ADVISORY BOARD
AGENDA
MAY 4, 2015
6:30 PM
ACTON MEMORIAL LIBRARY - CONFERENCE ROOM
486 MAIN STREET

Link to documents numbered on this agenda:

<http://doc.acton-ma.gov/dsweb/View/Collection-6780>

- Net Zero Energy Buildings (ZNEB) (010)
- Charge - Proposed Draft Amendment (020)
- Staff Changes
- One Year Production - Landfill Solar Project
- Update on Green Communities Grant
- Approve Minutes
- *Community Solar Presentation – tabled until June 1*



**GREEN ADVISORY BOARD
MINUTES
MAY 4, 2015
6:30 PM
ACTON MEMORIAL LIBRARY - CONFERENCE ROOM
486 MAIN STREET**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bruce Friedman, Dennis Loria, Cameren Cousins

ASSOCIATE MEMBER: Padamaja Kuchimanchi

MUNICIPAL PROPERTIES DIRECTOR: Dean Charter

CONSERVATION ANYLIST: Pamela Cady

RECORDING SECRETARY: Andrea Ristine

VISITORS: none

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6:39 Mr. Friedman called the meeting to order.

Net Zero Energy Buildings (ZNEB)

Mr. Friedman read his draft proposal to the Board of Selectmen (BoS) recommending that any future municipal or school building renovation or construction meet Zero Energy or be Zero Energy Ready as defined by Massachusetts Executive Office of Environmental and Energy Affairs (MEOEEA). Personally he would like to see building code change to this.

Upon query by Mr. Friedman, Mr. Charter reported that a new senior center is currently in the planning stage and would be applicable. The recommendation would have to be sent to the BoS since they approve capital projects.

Mr. Friedman stated that he will provide more detailed information if the Green Advisory Board (GAB) supports this recommendation to the BoS.

Proposed Draft Charge Amendment (020)

Ms. Cousins reviewed the draft amendment to the GAB expanding the scope towards conservation and sustainability.

Mr. Charter noted the distinction that the GAB can make recommendations to the Regional School District (RSD) but they don't have to abide as it is now its' own distinct political entity that no longer answers to the BoS. The Acton Water District also is its' own political entity. The Dept. of Public Works (DPW) will be probably implemented the new Pay as You Throw program in October; he will ask the DPW Director if he can provide an overview of the program at a future

GAB meeting. Both the Transfer Station and the Waste Water Treatment Plant are run through an enterprise fund and not supported by the Town's tax base.

Mr. Loria noted that it would be good to be broadly minded but questioned what expertise GAB members have to be getting specific, the Board shouldn't try to spread too wide, possibly have discussions around what and how specifically the GAB can and is capable of being involved in certain things.

Mr. Charter noted that GAB's original charge was focused on by previous Selectwoman Paulina Knibbe and somewhat by Terra Friedrichs.

Staff Changes

Mr. Charter reported that he will be retiring on June 30; the BoS in support of the change in the municipal structure of the Municipal Properties Department becoming a sub-department under the DPW and no longer report directly to the Town Manager as it is currently does. The new Municipal Properties Superintendent (MPS) position will focus more specifically on municipal facilities; Mr. Charter will remain with the Town as part-time Tree Warden for one to three years and focus more on grounds maintenance. The Energy Conservation Analyst (ECA) position, currently Pam Cady, will be incorporated into MPS, the ECA position will no longer exist.

One Year Production - Landfill Solar Project

Mr. Charter reported that production goals have been met the solar plant is generating enough kWh to net out where the Town should be with a little overage at WWTP, which will be reallocated to some to the pump stations.

Green Communities Grant Update

Mr. Charter reported that the grant application was submitted as recommended by the GAB. The Department of Energy Resources had one question on a school project; there is no news on the award yet.

Minutes

Ms. Cousins moved that the Board accept the minutes of January 5, 2015, Mr. Loria 2nd; unanimous.

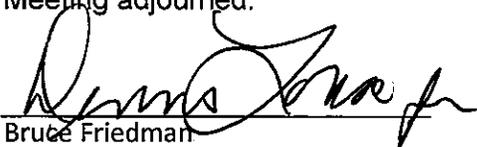
Staff Changes - Land Use and Economic Development Director

Ms. Cousins stated that she would like to recommend that this new position help promote transportation, environmental planning and sustainable community development ideals.

The Board agreed to delegate Ms. Cousins to compile and compose a response to the Board of Selectmen's, memo dated 4/30/15, regarding the new position approved at the recent Annual Town Meeting.

Mr. Loria moved that Ms. Cousins be delegated to compile and compose a draft response letter to the BoS pertaining to the draft job description memo sent by the BoS dated 4/30/15, Mr. Friedman 2nd; unanimous.

8:20 Meeting adjourned.



Bruce Friedman
Chair

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