

REAC Minutes

November 7, 2019

Dick Klain, Donna Cheney, Lynn Breckinridge, Pete LaFond, Dave Low, Alan Solander

Absent: Rich Bicknell

Lynn started the meeting congratulating both Kimberly and Pete for their leadership and execution for the solar agenda item to the Town Council.

1. Establish Quorum

2. Review of Draft Minutes October 3, 2019 Meeting

Voted unanimously to approve the October 3, 2019 minutes

3. Public Comment

Open and closed

4. Guest Speaker—Jennifer Brennan, Efficiency Maine, to discuss new Electric Vehicle (EV) incentives and rebates

Jennifer Brennan with Efficiency Maine delivered a presentation on the Efficiency Maine rebates regarding electric vehicle charging stations. It is believed that the library has applied for two charging stations when they open after construction in the spring.

November 12— charging station grant match up to 5,000 or 50% for level 2 chargers.

120 instant rebates have been processed since the program was implemented in August, 2019. Towns and fleets can get 10 rebates a year.

There will be a phase III grant released in the beginning of 2020 for fast chargers. Potentially an opportunity to apply for one at the Transfer Station, which already has three phase power. Efficiency Maine will also be developing a program specific to non-profits.

5. Update on “Recycle Right” Pledge—November 5 Elections

6. Solar Landfill Project Timeline and Report on October 16 Town Council Presentation—Kimberly and Pete to lead

Pre bid meeting was November 4, on Monday of this week. Questions are due on November 14, and proposals are due on November 21. Contract will be awarded in the beginning of 2020.

7. Building Energy and Codes Discussion—Dave Low to lead

There is a possibility of adopting a stretch code next summer regarding the town's ordinance and code. The thought is to adopt a municipal building code by ordinance. This item will be discussed in greater detail at the next committee meeting.

8. Continued Discussion Regarding Business Sustainability - Recycling barriers and opportunities - Sustainability Certification—this will be tabled until December on the business sustainability discussion.

On business recycling—Dave contacted ecomaine about silver bullets. Kimberly and Dave will continue working on this.

9. Continued Discussion on Plastic Straw Ban Proposal—What Portland is implementing, and what Falmouth's next steps are

Portland recently adopted a policy where businesses can only hand out straws if customers asked, and will be banning them out right next year. Donna is going to talk to Councilor Cahan to see if she would like to introduce a ban of plastic straws to the town Council.

10. EarthDay2020—October 30 meeting report out—Dick Klain to lead

Discussed the ad hoc Earth Day 2020 committee, which includes representatives of the Conservation Commission, the Audubon. The group will be including local businesses as well as the School Department, the library, and other organizations into the efforts.

11. Next meeting date December 5, 2019

12. Adjourn