



Climate Action Advisory Board (CAAB)
Comprehensive Sustainability & Energy Committee (CSEC)
JOINT MEETING AGENDA
Town of Concord

Date: Thursday, June 16, 2022
Time: 6:30 - 8:30 PM
Location: **Zoom**

In accordance with M.G.L. ch. 30A, §18-25, notice is hereby given that the Climate Action Advisory Board and Comprehensive Sustainability and Energy Committee will hold a public meeting on **Thursday, June 16, 2022 at 6:30 PM.**

To participate in this meeting you may video conference in to
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83945466823?pwd=ZFILUE8xQmdvU1k3eU9JRXNFRVo1UT09>

or use

Meeting ID: 839 4546 6823

Passcode: 165866

To call-in by phone dial 301-715-8592 with Meeting ID and Passcode above. Please note that dial-in participants will be muted and will not be able to make comments.

1. Welcome and Call to Order (Jerry and Courtney) [6:30]
 - a. CAAB Clerk - John Bolduc
 - b. CSEC Clerk - Karen
2. Approval of minutes [6:32]
 - a. CAAB - April and May (Courtney)
 - b. CSEC - April (Karen)
3. Joint Chair's update (Jerry and Courtney) [6:40]
 - a. Send Jerry and Amanda availability for meetings in July and August if you haven't already done so or [fill out this form](#) if you haven't done so already.
 - b. CSEC - Statistics on Cooler Concord Series
 - c. CAAB - Info from Chair's Breakfast
4. Director's Update (Amanda) [6:50]
 - a. Detailed Director updates can be found on [CAAB's website](#).
5. Sustainability Awards Program (Annabel) [7:00]
6. Status of Sustainable Concord Progress on Built Environment (Amanda) [7:25]
7. Sharing of Current Priorities and Work Plans [7:40]
8. Committee and Board Brainstorm of Ideas for Future [7:50]
9. Public comment [8:20]
10. Adjourn [8:30]

2022 Comprehensive Sustainability & Energy Committee (CSEC):

Jerry Frenkil	Resident (current Chair)	Bob Shatten	Resident
Janet Miller	Resident ('18 Chair)	Michael McDonald	Resident
Doug Sharpe	Resident ('19 & '20 Chair)	Matt Johnson	(Select Board Liaison)
Karen Gibson	Resident (Clerk)	Nathan Bosdet	(Town Planning Bd Liaison)
Sharon Jones	Resident		
Hany Teylouni	Resident		

CAAB Committee Members: Courtney Eaton (Chair), Brian Crouse, Jake Swenson, John Bolduc, Warren Leon, Paul Kirshen

Town Distribution: Town Manager, Amanda Kohn (Sustainability Director), CMLP Staff

Local Groups: Mothers Out Front, ConcordCAN, League of Women Voters

April 20th, 2022
Climate Action Advisory Board
Town of Concord

1. Welcome

- a. Board Attendance:
 - i. Courtney Eaton
 - ii. Jake Swenson
 - iii. John Bolduc
 - iv. Michael McAteer
 - v. Warren Leon
 - vi. Paul Kirshen
- b. Other Attendees:
 - i. Amanda Kohn
 - ii. Brad Hubbard-Nelson

2. Meetings and minutes

- a. Question —Could the Planning Board include emission-based standards?
 - i. Answer: Energy-based standard can conflict with building code. Emissions based standards are not technically regulated by the state (doing this in Cambridge and Boston). Planning Board is also working on draft site plan review and these are in review/development. They are using Lexington as a base, which incorporated sustainability. Site Plan Review Regulations can be established by a Public Meeting. We don't currently have any Site Plan Review Regulations (just a bylaw). MAPC has been helping with this effort and the Town Planner has also been doing a lot of the work.
- b. Approval of minutes from March 16th
 - i. Motion: Warren
 - ii. Second: Michael
 - iii. Vote: Unanimous approval

3. Chair's update

- a. Town meeting
 - i. Discussion on availability to attend Town Meeting to voice support for Article 38.
 - ii. Group will need to confer on availability depending upon when the Article will be voted upon (Sunday vs. Monday). Jake and John might be able to swing by depending on the day. Others have tentative plans and Courtney will coordinate.
 - iii. Courtney and Amanda will discuss if a designee can speak on behalf of CAAB or if the moderator can speak to CAAB's position.
- b. Joint Meetings Update
 - i. May be able to plan for a joint meeting with CMLB in the future
 - ii. Looking to have a joint meeting with CSEC in June
 - iii. CSEC is meeting on April 28th to discuss the Alcott Boiler
 - iv. Still aiming to make a connection with the Transportation Advisory Committee and the roadmap that they are working on
- c. Youth membership / interest on Town committees
 - i. Patriots Day – Group of high school students marched from the Sunrise Movement
 - ii. Green Team is heavily active and there may be other groups at the high school working on this
 - iii. We should encourage civic involvement and seek diversity of voice. Lets keep in mind how we can partner in the future with these groups maybe through non-voting

- members or other partnerships. Students used to participate when we had a former member who was affiliated with the school. Board showed support for this.
- iv. Amanda can investigate the process of how a student could join as a member of the Board through the regulations and also reach out to the Green Team school staff member.
 - v. One consideration would be the students may not be able to commit to a three-year term, but this doesn't need to be a hindrance.
- d. Cooler Concord – Reminder
- i. Starting on April 27th with a Keynote. Hybrid event.
 - ii. Arbor Day event on April 29th
 - iii. Festival at the Library at April 30th and these event has a lot of partners participating
4. Director's update
- a. *Note: the regular detailed Director updates on [CAAB's website](#) will not be available this month. Reach out to Amanda if you're looking for a specific update.*
 - b. [Feedback on Sustainable Concord Dashboard](#)
 - i. Yearly contract for the dashboard is coming up. Amanda reviewed the dashboard layout and content (data, goals, actions, plan elements). Website has nice graphics and is interactive. We also receive four social media posts and is always a way that we can post blogs. Much of the information is on concordma.gov. CSEC is also using Cooler Concord's website. This has an events page and also tracks individual actions.
 - ii. Sustainable Concord Dashboard Page costs \$4500 dollars and will cost more in the future. Analytics for the page does show that we have new users (close to 100 people).
 - iii. The cost and the amount of traffic to the website is a consideration. Three websites might also be confusing. It also takes quite a bit of effort to keep three websites updated. The social media isn't reaching very many folks either. KLA does maintain the site, but a lot of the content does come from the Town.
 - iv. Comments from the Board: Seems like a lot of effort to keep up the websites and the cost feels a little high. The updates to the dashboard from KLA save the Town time and can be worth the funding. There is a bigger question around how do we get the communications out. This could be an entire study. Could also just maintain the site and remove the social media support. Three websites are too much, and we could provide guidance to better direct people. Dashboard is great for sustainability folks, but how do we make it impactful for an average resident. We could also spend efforts and dollars on more engagement to direct sources of information. Too much information can also be a bad thing and so simplify things could be helpful, particularly for certain audiences.
 - v. Public Comment: Brad Hubbard Nelson from MassEnergize and a resident encouraged all to check out the actions page on coolerconcord.org to see if the actions are useful and geared towards an average resident. He offered to walk through the website with anyone. This is a low cost effort to engage.
 - vi. Amanda commented that the Cooler Concord site also tracks individual option. And so all the websites have different purpose and benefits.
 - vii. Question from Board: What is the Town's effort on the Cooler Concord site?
 - 1. Answer: The Town is now just getting involved with Cooler Concord. Other municipalities are involved in with their sites. Brad and others have built the site and contributed a lot. Now that the Town has an MOU and paid a membership fee to Mass Energize, the Town may become more involved.
 - viii. Additional feedback from the Board was requested to be sent to Amanda.
5. Workplan Check-Ins

- a. Home Energy Scores
 - i. Amanda connected Jake with another advocate in Brookline who participated in an home energy labeling cohort in 2019 with RMI and Earth Advantage. Now Jake has access to all of the resources and information from this program. Jake now has a better perspective on how different municipalities are taking this on. They have templates – calculator tool, regulatory frameworks, training program. Next steps are to continue to explore this and refine thinking specific to Concord.
 - ii. Northeast Energy Efficient Partnership also has a cohort of towns focused on home energy scores. There is a helix dataset and approach, but MA hasn't signed on yet, and so we'll have to learn and see where this goes. Jake plans to attend the monthly facilitated dialogues.
- b. Climate Vulnerability Assessment
 - i. John started an outline on a memo that will come from CAAB and go to the Town Manager and Select Board to summarize what we know and don't know. The recommendation would be to develop our own climate projections and to conduct a vulnerability assessment to the degree we can.
 - ii. Amanda gave an update that OARS and CPW did some outreach for a regional approach for flood and drought modeling work to apply for an MVP Action Grant. Overall there was support, but the collecting a few thousand dollars of match funding was not going to be possible at this time. We are moving forward with a grant still for a Concord specific model, but will take into account some of the regional aspects so that the model can grow to meet regional goals. The grant will request funding for the consensus building within region. The grant will also help solve some technical questions, such as, can one model be used for flood and drought. We might also be able to collect some of the regional data.
 - iii. Amanda reported that MAPC will assist the town a hazard mitigation plan (HMP) update, which will include a climate vulnerability assessment. The downscaled climate projections specific to Concord would be a part of this. This process would also move really quickly to ensure that we continue to be eligible for FEMA federal funding. The current plan expires in Dec 2022. The HMP will utilize the best available data from the state, which is an improvement from
 - iv. Downscaled climate change projections are going to be available on a county level basis from UMass. We may be able to do this in partnership with that modeler.
 - v. We should talk more about how the local model will take into account regional changes and approach.
 - vi. Courtney commented on how the MAGIC communities all have different water and wastewater systems. Lexington is more urban whereas Bolton doesn't have a centralized water system. The water infrastructure drivers are going to be different for different communities. This will be good to find differences and commonalities.
- c. Financing
 - i. Goal is to setup a loan program to help offset the costs of residential electrification. This won't be a one solution fits all. MassSave is offering natural gas customers who are converting to ASHP do qualifying for 0% interest rates

loans up to \$25,000. This is very easy to access. This new program has really boosted the demand for heat pumps across the state and now the challenge is to get the equipment.

- ii. Other segments (fuel oil and others that have higher emissions) will need to utilize another option. We have put together a memo on the different options. We are going to do a quick review and share with CAAB and CMLP next.
 - iii. Some of the options will require continuing discussions and monitoring. BlocPower is great for commercial and multi-family. Slipstream is interested in on bill repayment. BlocPower is behind the Ithaca model, which is aiming to electrify on a large scale in a quick time frame. They also have a many turnkey features. BlocPower has used private capital funds in order to decarbonize homes. Both options should help make these changes more affordable. Michael and Warren have meetings with these groups in the next few weeks.
 - iv. Simplicity, access, and affordability will be critical to making the switch to electric.
 - v. The Light Plant is matching the MassSave incentives for rebates but not the loan program.
 - vi. Cambridge is also exploring BlocPower. John has a contact if needed. They have a proprietary energy model and prefer the community pays for the modeling. The other approach would be to issue an RFP (like Ithaca), but they also had \$100 million backing, which was organized by Ithaca's Sustainability Director who came from the financing world. BlocPower said it will actually cost a couple billion dollars to update their building stock. We have to recognize this large cost. A few million dollars here or there will not get us there. BlocPower is a for profit organization and have asked for an endorsement from the City, which could be challenging.
 - vii. Warren agrees with Michael and John that BlocPower is interesting, but Concord may not be the right fit as the first community in MA given that we don't have as many multifamily units as other communities.
 - viii. Lexington Town Meeting did pass their benchmarking performance standard. We could look at this as well.
- d. Planning Board Support
- i. CAAB and other committees with related interest should review the Site Plan Review regulations and watch for the public hearing to provide comment. CAAB could look into the emission performance standards and see if could be incorporated. Amanda and Courtney will touch base.
6. Warrant Article Follow-up
- a. Article 33 - TBD Zoning Bylaw
 - i. Goal was to determine the board's stance
 - ii. Michael: Question around how sustainability was incorporated and where would sustainability occur in the review process. The Home Rule Petition would help ensure that new development was fossil fuel free, but we can't count on that at this point.
 - iii. Courtney: The review would tie back to the Site Plan Review. This could be a good place to focus energy.
 - iv. John: The article is creating the zoning to allow for transit-oriented development and would create more housing, which is needed. There are two ways to look at it – how does it relate to the town's emission goals and how do you make the development sustainable? Any new development will add emissions unless they are replacing high

emitting buildings. There are multiple goals at work here. We may have a role to explain the implications of the zoning.

- v. Amanda: Let's be clear that there is not a development proposed. This is just zoning and design guidelines. So everything at this point would be hypothetical.
- vi. John: The rezoning enables development to occur, which could add emissions. This isn't a measure to oppose it, but we should make sure we have standards to limit emissions. It could be an opportunity to put complementary standards in place and bring attention to this issue.
- vii. Warren: My first thought, this is complicated and contentious. I'm not sure CAAB is in a position to craft a coherent position that will make a difference in the debate when other larger issues are on the table. Warren slightly disagrees on John's stance. I could live with development that is closer to transit and is more dense to make it easy for people to reduce transportation emissions. The alternative of more diffuse development would result in higher emissions.
- viii. Jake: This is a tough one to weigh in on. I agree with some of the elements that they are trying to fix – more walkable and more housing. Based on the last conversation and John's comments, we should encourage the Planning Board to find other ways to incorporate sustainability into other development regulations. Hopefully there will also be an updated building code in the future. We also probably don't have the time to put together a letter for Town Meeting and so I think we should engage the Planning Board in the future.
- ix. Courtney: Sounds like we take no stance at this point with a commitment of engaging the Planning Board in the future on development standards.

7. Other topics?

- a. Process for Facilities Energy Renewals (e.g. Alcott boiler)
 - i. Courtney provided an overview of a line item in the upcoming budget to be presented at Town meeting includes a boiler for the Alcott School. This is a multi-year energy efficiency project. Many climate advocates have asked questions to ask if electrification would be a better option.
 - ii. Jerry Frenkil provided additional detail. The plans to replace the heating system is being driven by the heating system's projected end of life (20-years). As Chair of CSEC, I asked the School Committee to provide more information on process and if there was any room for a hybrid or electric system. The School Committee's short answer was no, but we are going to have a special CSEC meeting with Dr. Hunter and the Chair of the School Committee on April 28th. The meeting will help us determine how we got here, determine if we want to make a recommendation for a change in plans at Alcott, and discuss what process could be put in place to ensure sustainability is incorporated into future capital planning efforts. For example, Thoreau School will need to be updated in the near term.
 - iii. Courtney posed to CAAB that this could be considered a priority in the future with balancing the other priorities we have already and the limited capacity. We also have to keep in mind that the Town has a more authority over their own capital planning but this also accounts for less emissions. We should continue to think through Town staff capacity and our partnership with them. We should consider a practical approach in the future.
 - iv. Michael: There are two amendment versions for Article 19. One would be not to accept the line item at all and the second version would be to put a pause on the purchase and use some of the funding to do a study. The second version will help us determine costs

and technical feasibility. I was on the Alcott building committee and we were debating daylighting and higher performing school (air quality). We weren't talking about decarbonization 20 years ago. The three points of the meeting will be very worthwhile. This is a good learning experience for the Town

- v. John: Should we send a letter to the Select Board? Sounds like there was a disconnect between the decision making and Article 51. We will need a policy put in place to ensure this doesn't continue to happen.
 - vi. Amanda: Was CAAB involved in the Sustainable Fleet Policy? There could be a Sustainable Buildings Policy.
 - vii. No one had a memory of being involved.
 - viii. Courtney: The first phase of this project was probably in 2019. So perhaps this was already in motion and hadn't had the chance to consider Article 51.
 - ix. John agreed that this will happen early in the process.
 - x. Courtney posed that this could be a future topic area.
 - xi. Michael: There seems to be tension between advocates, the school committee, and staff. Hopefully at the meeting we can diffuse the tension. I can plan to attend the CSEC meeting and report back.
 - xii. Jerry: I agree, I don't want this to be adversarily. I would support CAAB's support by a representative coming to the meeting and providing critical thoughts.
 - xiii. Amanda: There could be a Sustainable Buildings Policy (similar to the Fleet Policy). Or it could apply capital planning. Having a policy is great, but having plans and assessments to support the policy are also helpful. Sustainable Concord does have a priority that calls for a Municipal Energy Reduction Plan, but this could be an Energy Transition Plan.
 - xiv. John: Some towns have a municipal facility improvement plans.
8. New business
- a. No new business was discussed
9. Public comments
- a. No public comments were made
10. Adjourn
- a. Jake motioned to adjourn
 - b. Warren seconded
 - c. All in favor

COMPREHENSIVE SUSTAINABILITY & ENERGY COMMITTEE

DRAFT Meeting Minutes

Thursday, April 28, 2022

Pursuant to a notice duly filed with the Town Clerk, a meeting of the Comprehensive Sustainability & Energy Committee was held on April 28, 2022 at 7:00 pm via Zoom. CSEC members present were Jerry Frenkil (Chair), Karen Gibson (Clerk), Sharon Jones, Janet Miller, Douglas Sharpe, and Hany Teylouni. Also present were Amanda Kohn (Sustainability Director), Brad Hubbard-Nelson, Cynthia Rainey (Concord School Committee), Michael McAteer, Court Booth, Russ Hughes (Concord Public School), Laurie Hunter (Concord Public School).

1. Welcome and Call to Order

Jerry called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm

2. Approval of minutes from April 21

Karen noted two minor corrections to the minutes. Janet moved to approve the minutes as amended from the April 21st meeting. Doug seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.

3. Chair's update

Nothing to report since CSEC met last week.

4. Review of Kerry Emanuel's Keynote

Janet reported on the keynote talk by Prof. Kerry Emanuel. There were 42 online participants and approximately 30 people attending in person. Participants engaged in good discussion following the talk. Once posted on the Minuteman Media Network, the URL to the event video will be posted to the MassEnergize Cooler Concord website.

5. Alcott boiler (Concord Public School representative)

Jerry introduced the issue of the need for a new boiler at Alcott. The original plan was to replace it with a new gas fired boiler, but that plan has now been amended. He noted that the topic is bigger than just Alcott and that other school and municipal buildings will soon face a similar issue.

Superintendent Laurie Hunter briefed the Committee. In 2013 there was an overall energy audit across all of the schools that drove the plans for upgrades, replacements, etc.—all under the energy efficiency model. Based on that study, Alcott was the first school to be addressed, with Thoreau and Willard to follow soon after. COVID slowed everything down.

Russ Hughes noted that in Phase 1 of the Master Plan, 6 energy recovery units (ERU) were replaced last summer to address heating problems. The next phase of the energy upgrade is the boilers; an engineering study was done to replace them with high efficiency boilers. The plan was to put them on the 2024 capital.

Laurie noted that funds earmarked in 2023 for the Alcott boiler have now been reallocated to upgrade and replace heating units at Ripley. Russ described the need to upgrade the electrical service to 1200amps at Ripley to install heat pumps in the pods. This electrical work was not seen during the original audit so it was not budgeted for. Laurie explained that the Town is part of the Green Community grant project which includes a matching project of about \$120K which must be used in FY23. This funding, originally earmarked for the Alcott boiler in 2023, will be reallocated to the Ripley project and \$50K will be put toward a feasibility study of the boiler at Alcott.

Jerry asked about the division between the distribution of the heat between the boiler and the heat pumps. Russ responded that the four pods will be heated and cooled by the heat pumps with new duct work and no longer by the boilers. Hot water for the administration building and gym will still be covered by the boilers.

Laurie and Russ answered questions posed by CSEC:

1. *Is the as-built documentation on Alcott available (energy model, HVAC schematics, insulation, fenestration schedules)?* Yes
2. *What were the changes to the HVAC design since original construction? How is the Alcott HVAC design and construction different from that at the other elementary schools?* The design is similar to other elementary schools. All 6 ERUs were replaced last summer. Thoreau had retrofitted AC as well. The Willard school is being used to inform improvements to the other schools.
3. *Can you briefly describe the function of the boiler? Which HVAC devices are served by hot water?* The boilers are just for heat.
4. *What are the most recent annual natural gas consumption numbers? What are the natural gas consumption numbers projected to be after installation of the new boiler?* The gas energy intensity .37 therms/sq ft. Normalized consumption is 28,688 therms/year. The new boiler would have saved 3,171 therms. The original plan for Alcott was efficiency driven rather than sustainability driven – reflective of 2013 thinking when the energy audit was done.
5. *What are the projected End of Life (EOL) dates for the Alcott, Thoreau, and Willard schools?* Buildings typically last 50 years, often longer. Alcott was built in 2004 and its last renovation was in 2014.
6. *What were the primary motivating factors in planning to replace the Alcott boiler? Reduce operational costs? Improve reliability and prevent unplanned outages? Reduce GHG emissions? Others?* Lifespans of ERUs and air handlers are about 25 years. Preventative maintenance is often done in order to avoid replacement. The Green Communities grant has a deadline so the money from the state has to be spent in FY23. The 5-year plan will need to be revisited.
7. *What is the Green House Gas (GHG) reduction plan to 2030 and 2050 relative to the 2004 baseline (original construction date)? How can we achieve an 80% or a 100%*

GHG reduction if we continue on the current path (i.e. current system design with natural gas boiler)? Laurie pointed to the need to keep looking at paths and see what the options are. She noted they are responding to questions raised about Alcott, focusing on substantial progress for Ripley, and making progress on the middle school. They are constantly reviewing and reassessing.

8. *Has there been any planning or consideration for a deep energy retrofit at Alcott or the other schools? This would likely include upgrading the envelope as well as the mechanicals.* The \$50K for the feasibility study will help understand the envelopes at the older buildings.
9. *What is the current process for capital budgeting for school buildings? What goals are being pursued? Do the goals include EOL, GHG, and financial targets?* The Capital budget is updated annually. The 5-year plan is fluid and reflected upon annually. There is typically \$900K allocated in the Town Manager's budget toward capital projects for the preschool to K8 schools.
10. *Is there a long-term capital plan for our buildings (i.e. beyond the specific dates in the current capital plan) that reflects the Town's goals to achieve 80% GHG reduction by 2050?* Laurie stated they try to operate with a master plan that meets varying levels of need from repairs and safety, to proactive preventative maintenance or advancement in energy, sustainability and efficiency within that \$900K/annually. They also work closely with Green Communities.
11. *What is the role of the School's Sustainability Committee? Is this Committee involved in Capital Planning or setting goals for these buildings? Who outside of the School Administration reviews these plans?* The Superintendents Advisory Committee formed in 2017 to capture all the good ideas that the different Concord groups were bringing to Laurie. It became a broad-based place to share resources and build a set of goals to approach together. Laurie would love to have someone from CSEC join them and help craft the vision.

Public Comment:

Michael McAteer agreed that the conversation was formerly about daylighting and indoor air quality rather than decarbonization. He noted that it is refreshing to hear Laurie and her team recalibrating based on what we have learned in recent years and on new goals of electrifying the Town. He suggested that given the complexity of taking all of the schools to net zero over time, it will require a group of people with a lot of expertise and that maybe the advisory group could look at the built environment in conjunction with the budgeting process to avoid potential future last minute barriers.

Brad Hubbard Nelson expressed appreciation for the collaborative nature of this process, and noted that this is beginning to happen across the state. He wondered if there was any learning from efforts that are nearby as to strategies. Laurie noted that they are formalizing communication across school districts for new builds.

6. Proposed amendment to Article 19

Jerry thanked Laurie and her team and the School Committee. He stated that the proposed amendment to Article 19 would not be raised at Town Meeting—the actions of Laurie and the School Committee at the 11th hour that made this amendment moot.

Court Booth (144 Wright Rd) repeated thanks to Laurie and her team for the willingness to make last minute changes in response to questions raised about this issue.

7. Last Minute Sustainability Series Topics

Amanda reported that several Green Team students helped put the seedlings together so they are ready for the Arbor Day event tomorrow. She pointed out that there is a new volunteer waiver that needs to be filled out for the Festival. CSEC members discussed logistics and reservations for the upcoming events.

The heat pump event will either be in person, zoom only, or a hybrid event depending on Minuteman Media's availability. Sharon has lined up a few people to speak about their own personal experiences with different systems. The heat pump coaches and Jan Aceti from CMLP will attend. Mike McDonald is trying to get someone from National Grid to participate.

Sharon reported that her neighbor, David Bearg, an environmental engineer, has offered to show their home and the changes they have made on a day in May. CSEC members could go early in May and then ask Dave to show his home to others on May 28th and announce the opportunity at the *Your Sustainable Home Now* event.

Jerry reported that the *Your Sustainable Home Now* event will be zoom only. Doug went through the layout for the event. The event will begin at 7pm. There will be a presentation followed either by two zoom breakout rooms where people can interact and ask questions, or Q&A with the full group. Brad suggested interspersing polls with questions to the audience throughout the presentation.

Janet reported that the EV event will be in person only. The topic is mainly about charging: differences in plugs, compatibility, voltage, maps of chargers. There will be EVs in the parking lot. The event will entail a game that revolves around planning a trip: where do you charge, where are destination chargers, etc.

8. There was no new business.

Sharon moved to adjourn. The Committee adjourned at 9:30pm.



Active/Ongoing Projects

- **Municipal Fleet Electrification Study** – Completed. Presenting to Select Board on June 13th and moving to complete next steps to include centralizing fleet management tracking into a single database and finalizing EV charging installation protocol.
- **UNH Fellowship** – Joshua Arroyo Torres has started his project that will support the Division's community engagement efforts and build capacity to ensure benefit to the community beyond his term.
- **Tree City USA Recognition** – All standards have been achieved. Application for 2022 can commence.
- **2021 Annual Report** –Forthcoming.
- **Concord Middle School (CMS) Building Project and Solar Project**– Schematic design complete. Presented to Light Board on 6/08/2022.
- **Hazard Mitigation Plan and Police/Fire Station Retreat Analysis** – Kickoff meeting for project has taken place. Will be led by Fire Department. CAAB member will likely sit on Local Hazard Mitigation Plan Committee.
- **Expansion of Compost Pilot Project** – Another bin will be added at each drop off location. Volunteer monitoring project has commenced.
- **Article 38 Solar Feasibility Study** – Initial review of previous reports and completed internal staff meeting to discuss next steps.
- **MAPC Technical Assistance on Climate Adaptation in Regulations**
- **CAAB Priority: No to Low Interest Rate Loans** – Setting up a meeting with CMLP to discuss the no to low interest rate loan options to continue to explore.
- **CAAB Priority: Home Energy Scores** – Reaching out to network to capture information on what might be occurring within the region.

Highlights From Around Town

- CMLP is planning to purchase three Ford Lightnings on July 1st. Three EV chargers will be installed to support the new and projected vehicles in the fleet.
- 141 Keyes Road is the Town's second all-electric building. (CMLP was the first). Other plans are being made for electrification of other building in alignment heating upgrade needs and capital planning.

Grant and Technical Assistance

- **Grants Awarded** –
 - MassEVIP DC Fast Charger Program – Contract complete. Quotes have been collected. Confirming charger specifications will meet MassEVIP requirements.
 - Green Communities Grant – The Town received \$100,000 of grant funding that will be matched with funding from the schools and the CMLP rebate program for air source heat pumps for the pods at the Ripley School and Administration Building. Awaiting response from National Grid on rebate application.

- **MVP Action Grant** –The Town submitted one MVP Action Grants to create a subbasin watershed model in Concord to assess climate vulnerability and develop actions for integrated water resource management. The project could serve as a pilot for the regional and funds were requested to pursue regional consensus building with OARS.
- **MAPC Technical Assistance Program** – In partnership with the Engineering and Planning Divisions, the Town submitted a proposal for a sustainable streets planning. The proposal listed several of the implementation steps from Sustainable Concord. MAPC will review and decide if to award assistance of all, a subset, or none of the proposed work.
- **Grants Watch List**
 - ARPA and IIJA grants – EV charging, electric buses, etc.
 - MassEVIP for Fleets and Charging – Accepted on a rolling basis.
 - Green Communities – Not eligible for the next funding round since we received a grant from FY22 round two.
 - GAP III Financing
 - Community Compact Efficiency and Regionalization
 - FEMA HMPG and BRIC Grants

Events and Engagement

- **CAAB Monthly Meeting** - third Wednesday of the month at 6:00 PM
- **CSEC Monthly Meeting** – third Thursday of the month at 7:00 PM
- **Light Board Monthly Meeting**– second Wednesday of the month at 7:30 AM
- **Have a special interest?** Contact Amanda Kohn (akohn@concordma.gov) for information on how to join groups working together on EV adoption (Concord Drives Electric), expanding the use of air source heat pumps (Concord Heats Electric), and more!

State Legislation to Tracking

New Energy Building Codes: The [Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources \(“DOER”\) is releasing a Straw Proposal](#) containing proposed updates to the existing Stretch Code and a framework for a new Opt-In Specialized Stretch Code. A recording of a webinar held on February 8th and a PDF of the straw proposal slides will be available on the DOER website. DOER is seeking comment on this Straw Proposal and will hold geographically-targeted public hearings in late February/early March to receive verbal public comment.

Back up information for [calculations informing changes have been released](#) online.

Next steps are expected to be a release of an initial draft of the update to the Stretch Code and the new Specialized Opt-In Stretch Code. Then DOER will hold public hearings on the draft code language for the Stretch Code update and the New Opt-In Specialized Stretch Code in Summer 2022. After reviewing public comment, DOER will revise the code language as required and publish the final update to the Stretch Code and the New Opt-In Specialized Stretch Code in Fall 2022.

MA House and Senate Bills: There are over 140 bills across the House and the Senate that are suggested when you search for climate in the 192nd session. These are the 27 bills that I have currently added to my legislative tracker. Each committee needed to report on the bills that were under their review by February 3rd. The Telecommunications, Utilities, and Energy

Commission (TUE) asked for an extension for the bills highlighted in **green until June 30nd**. If you're interested in creating your own dashboard to track your interests at the state policy level visit: <https://malegislature.gov/MyLegislature>.

1. [S. 1333 An Act to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by permitting local option all-electric buildings and homes ordinances](#) – Reported favorably by TUE to Ways and Means
 - o Statewide act enabling Town to opt into all-electric buildings and homes ordinances rather than appeal as Concord has done through a Home Rule Petition.
 - o Accompanied [H.4524 An Act advancing offshore wind and clean energy](#) – Committee working to reconcile amendments
2. S.2136 An Act transitioning Massachusetts to clean electricity, heating, and transportation
3. S.2139 An Act to promote zero-emission vehicle fleets by 2035
4. S.2144 An Act promoting local energy investment and infrastructure modernization
5. **H.2145 An Act promoting the adoption of renewable energy for heating, cooling and hot water**
6. S.2148 An Act relative to the future of heat in the Commonwealth
7. **H.2167 An Act to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by permitting local option all-electric buildings and homes ordinances**
8. S.2191 An Act promoting energy storage systems
9. [S.2196 An Act relative to home energy efficiency](#)– Reported favorably by TUE to Ways and Means
10. S.2202 An Act relative to building energy and decarbonization
11. S.2222 An Act relative to local energy investment and infrastructure modernization
12. S.2229 An Act creating a 21st Century clean energy economy – Sent to TUE in study order S2711
13. S.2231 An Act relative to green financing - Sent to TUE in study order S2711
14. [S.2232 An Act relative to better buildings](#) – Reported favorably by TUE to Ways and Means
 - o Large commercial buildings will need to report energy use to DOER annually, establishes an energy performance standard for different building types, cities and towns can establish their own energy disclosure requirements.
15. **H.3261 An Act promoting local energy investment and infrastructure modernization**
16. **H.3292 An Act achieving a green future with infrastructure and workforce investments**
17. H.3294 An Act to support innovation and local investment in the green economy
18. **H.3320 An Act establishing the GREEN Initiative**
19. **H.3334 An Act relative to home energy efficiency**
20. **H.3340 An Act creating a green bank to promote clean energy in Massachusetts**
21. **H.3341 An Act relative to green jobs**
22. **H.3343 An Act relative to solar power and the green economy**
23. **H.3350 An Act relative to building energy and decarbonization**
24. **H.3366 An Act relative to better buildings**
25. **H.4117 An Act authorizing the town of Concord to adopt and enforce local regulations restricting new fossil fuel infrastructure in certain construction**
26. H.4477 An Act relative to the electrification of new and substantially remodeled or rehabilitated buildings