Energy Futures Task Force 2/02/12 – recorded by Trish Ng, Scribe
Minutes Approved: March 9, 2017

Attending: Pam Hill, Chair, John Dalton, Brian Foulds, Wally Johnston, Elise Woodward, Alice Kaufman, Select Board Liaison
Citizens: Laura Scott, CMLP Liaison, Sue Richardson

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:35 am.

- Meeting minutes from past meetings are not available.
- Correspondence received re: soils to add to report as sequestering tactic
- Chair’s Report
Select Board meeting will be held at 7 pm on 2/6. EFTF will have 15 minutes for presentation and comments. Discussion followed about the report and incorporating public comments:
at public meeting, Peggy Briggs suggested longer public comment period (typically 1 month); question about interface of EFTF report and CMLP strategic plan; Select Board wants to receive report before hearing on 2/27; EFTF has engaged CMLP and public for comment and may not have received CMLP and SB comments by 2/8.
Pam suggests extension of comment period and proposes to issue final report on 2/22.
Committee would remain in existence until last day of town meeting for the purpose of editing/revising report; there is concern about dissolving committee and leaving report “open”; a request has been made to keep the report open through CMLP strategic planning process; keep report open to add addendum if necessary, not open to amend or revise actual report.
CMLP’s (Laura) input is that light board is trying to find a way to have agreement on the document so that the article has a better chance of success at Town Meeting.
Issue an addendum if necessary but the report body shouldn’t be influenced by CMLP strategy.
Alice comments that SB receives many reports and continues to receive comments after submittal. SB will review and decide on each recommendation for action. Alice suggests an ongoing dialog be recommended within the report, that conversation will remain open (a clear statement that recommends key stakeholder activities).
Wally suggests conversation with CMLP inviting them to express comments on EFTF final report in addendum form. This will allow a follow up group to use both final report and addendum with CMLP strategic plan in their work.
Recommendation could be less prescriptive but clear on the intent to have significant GHG reduction.

It was agreed to clarify position on recs, taking into consideration public comment from 2/1 meeting. CMLP strategic plan is due in May, and will be meeting today on goals. Laura will send report to John for EFTF review. Perhaps the report should be more explicit about 2030 goal and options for “other” ways to achieve. The report needs a statement about protecting CMLP’s existing business while making improvements in emissions.
Transforming the cost of rates and detailing a timeline of when the 20-30% increase could be implemented needs more clarification: the basis for increase, not a one-time increase.
Who holds baseline data and what can be said about progress since 2008?
Brian will add a section to describe data and how Concord has used the data and progress from 2008 - 2016 (but consultant will have to do a deeper dive to add comprehensive info more than is readily available).
Discussion followed about who owns the energy turf in town? why is additional money being requested for energy director when CMLP has one? new position would be focused on emissions and sustainability so it is necessary to be explicit in description of position as a town job not CMLP.

Alice’s input is to describe goals with benchmark along the way so as not to put all pressure on CMLP. Report could mention previous rate stabilizations that have been utilized to balance rate increases.

Schools’ roles will be added to report. Wally will identify progress schools have made and recommend that schools committees appoint representatives to be involved with EFTF2 (a campus committee). Topic will be added to SC meeting agenda on 2/14.

NetZero description for report (Dan)
Personal responsibility section (Pam)
Timelines discussion (John)
Hospital interview/outreach notes to be included in commercial sector.
Minimal agriculture section public comments were received. Wally will call Steve Verrill for additional information.

The next EFTF meeting is scheduled for Friday 2/10 at 11 am to follow up on revisions and clarifications to report.

Brian expressed concern about last minute changes to final presentation at public meeting, and report changes that are not work of an aligned committee.

Pam encourages commenting on report over the next few weeks. Report will have a final cut off and executive decisions will need to be made for editing.

Brian suggests someone with an energy background review the final report so that content doesn’t change in editing.

Brian will emphasize CO, methane, nitrogen oxide, fluorinated gases as the most harmful GHG in report and will define methodology for measurement. Addendum will address other GHG details.

Recap – Final report will include lines about continuing conversation after report is issued
Deliver final report on 2/22, with a question about extra public comment time? It’s up to SB to keep committee in existence for sole purpose of presenting at Town Meeting and interfacing with CMLP.

Public comment
Sue sent personal responsibility section notes for Pam to review.
Regarding how the Director position is described and its title, be clear that it is town position and beyond the scope of CMLP director as an expert in sustainability and practices beyond the energy sector.

Meeting adjourned at 9:44 am.