

DRAFT

Hartford Climate Advisory Committee

February 23, 2021

Special Meeting

Erik Krause called the meeting to order at 5:02 pm

Present: Erik Krauss; Jack Spicer; Matt Osborn; Ana Mejia

Act 92 Compliance: Erik read the Act 92 compliance agreement.

Additions/Changes to the Agenda: Erik asked if there were changes or additions to the agenda to be discussed. Jack said he would like to speak about his presentation that is Thursday. No other changes or additions were suggested, and the agenda was accepted with the addition of the presentation discussion.

Review and Approve Meeting Minutes: Jack will correct Ana's name in December meetings, he is so sorry. Ana moved to accept the minutes with the name corrections for December 16, 2020, December 23, 2020, and January 13, 2021. Jack seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously. Erik said there are notes on the website and there are recordings of the meetings for the Climate Advisory Team meetings.

Public Information Campaign for Article 22 (Climate Action Reserve Fund): Erik posted on Hartford listserv about the article. Courtney drafted language and resources that she sent out to the group. Ana will post on listserv on Thursday or Friday. Ana will post on Monday on Upper Valley listserv and Erik will post on the Hartford listserv a couple of times before the election. Ana's friend and/or Lucas will post on the Hartford listserv over the weekend. Ana will see if Lucas is interested. Staff posted a one page informational .pdf on Town's website under document center>planning and development>climate advisory.

Work Focus for February to June: Ted from paleBLUEdot established time to review draft Climate Action Plan on Wednesday, May 12. The plan is likely to be reviewed with Selectboard in June or July. Before then, we can work on the following.

Presentation to Selectboard/Staff on Municipal Carbon Neutrality Roadmap: Ana said she will follow up with Jack Cushman and then reach out to professor at Antioch University. During meeting, Jack Cushman replied to Ana expressing interest and wants to meet to get a good understanding of the goals of the presentation. Erik and Ana will try to have a virtual meeting with him or have him join our meeting on March 10.

Internal Facing Communications & External Facing Communications: Erik noted Courtney reached out to him in hopes that we can find someone to fill her seat on the committee while she remains a resource for messages/communications. Erik noted that there are many folks

running for Selectboard that may be interested in committee roles if they are not elected. Jack and Ana both noted that they would be willing to step outside of a member role and into an active community member role if there are people who want to join that live outside of Hartford. Erik has reached out to a few people and noted that people on the Climate Action Team may want to join the committee as their work wraps up.

Erik said it seems like every time we go before the Selectboard the members are not familiar with who we are or our roles. He wants to prepare documents with consistent messaging and a webpage with information for folks who are interested in what we do. South Burlington, Williston, and Addison County have groups looking for lessons we've learned.

Brenda created a folder for us to upload documents and links on the Town website. Jack will take a look at the webpage and see if it can be revamped/reorganized. The goal is for the webpage to be accessible and link to a lot of our documents and information. He will develop proposals and run them by members.

Climate Adaptation Work Group Presentation: Jack said that he has about 4 minutes to speak about the work the group is doing and that he thinks our selection was in part because we are a municipal group implementing some of the policy initiatives the other groups are working on. He will give a brief overview of the Committee's charge, a timeline of the work the committee is doing/has done, and touch on some of the ways adaptation has been considered in our decision making process (e.g. selecting a consultant that emphasizes adaptation, proposing a reserve fund that can be drawn from for adaptation projects). Ana said part of the goal is to highlight the adaptation work taking place in the UV to make sure we are all connected. Jack said he wasn't going to point to any particular adaptation actions or strategies. Erik said that the foundational documents and other paleBLUeDot documents are broad, overview, policy-based right now and the Climate Action Plan will develop actions and strategies more fully.

Closing Comments and Adjournment: Erik wants to invite new Town Manager to next meeting and all agreed. Ana is becoming involved with Vermont RELEAF network and is reserving a lot of her capacity for that and will be assistant town clerk for the town of Hartland.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted: Jack Spicer, Clerk