

**CARLISLE ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE MINUTES  
APRIL 27, 2023**

**Location:** Virtual (via Zoom)

**Participants:**

- Members Present: Debbie Bentley (chair), Bob Zogg, Eric Balles, Glenn Reed (left at 5:45), Christina Christodouloupoulos, Joeth Barlas (late).Kath Hardcastle, Dave Boettcher
- Members Absent: Dan Cook and Launa Zimmaro
- Non-Members Present: Sue Thomas, Sustainability Coordinator, Barney Arnold, Select Board, Sara Dunleavy, Jeremy Behrle

**Summary of Action Items:**

Description	Resp.
Get outstanding RTSD receipts/expenses to Christina ASAP	All
Write up event and outreach plan for Aubrey	Christina/Debbie
Promote survey and raffle through May 11	All
Talk up the Heat Pump Webinar May 24	All
Take a closer look at school energy use data in MEI and correct as necessary	Sue
Explore Eversource rebates for Cori Lighting	Sue and Jeremy
Find out if there is a rebate/grant for hybrid cruiser. Apply if there is.	Sue/police dept.
Find out if cruiser is a hybrid or plug in hybrid and if it is pursuit rated	Eric
Educate the public about the CCA benefits this autumn – Select Board and Barney	ESC/All in workplan
Look at the Events Page of the website and send Debbie updates routinely	All
Take the MMA webinar Aubrey sent out. Find out if it tells us about archiving web pages. If not Christina to ask.	All/Christina
Draft list of event outreach channels (and other event “manual” instructions?)	Christina
Write Letter of Support for MVP on behalf of ESC	Debbie?

**Call to Order and Public Input:**

- Debbie called meeting to order at 4:33pm
- Public Input: Sara introduced herself as a financial professional who had a great time helping out with RTSD. Christina invited her after all of her hard work at RTSD. Attempting to Ban rodenticide at the state level.

**1. Minutes Approval:**

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- **Vote: Minutes from the April 20, 2023 meeting were approved as drafted with one amendment made in the meeting. Eric made the motion, Joeth seconded and all were in favor.**
- Minutes from the April 13<sup>th</sup> meeting are still outstanding. Debbie to remind Dan.

**2. Feedback from RTSD Event:** A round of applause for Christina! Terrific Day!

- Debbie: Aubrey has asked that the committee write up the event as a model for other committees to use, particularly with regard to outreach and inclusion.
- Christina: 13 survey responses after the event as of today; survey and raffle are open until May 11<sup>th</sup>. One person responded about why they could not attend. Please continue to promote the survey and the raffle.
- Everyone – setup was seamless; as if it was a routine event, not the first time. Exceeded everyone's expectations, even with the weather, which was cold and windy.
- Entire event came to under \$5000; \$6,000 left in ARPA. Send Christina any outstanding receipts.
- Elements that worked
  - Connecting the town – organization, promotion and layout
  - Tangible things on display: hardware/petting zoo
  - QR Codes! Not an issue not to have handouts – pleasant surprise
  - Glenn had a great idea with a binder of info
  - Lots of free seeds!
  - Scavenger hunt
  - Homemade cookies
  - Spirit on the Common and the layout on the Common
  - MA Audubon snake and owl
  - Exhibitors were all very positive
  - # of exhibitors was impressive
  - Lots to teach; new information; bunny nests
  - SuAsCo table - watershed
  - Attendance was impressive – in town, and many from out of town as well – someone was asking a bunch of questions in the hope of doing something similar in their town
  - Biggest benefit may have been breaking down silos and connecting different advocacy groups and subject matter experts previously unaware of each other – cross community conversation better than Old Home Day?
  - Seniors were still talking about the event in the days after
  - Playground attracted families to the Canopy
  - DPW and Public Safety were wonderful and very helpful
  - Clean up was very efficient
  - Librarians were very happy with how it went and eager to collaborate going forward
  - Clover was very accommodating and seemed to do well
  - Fire Dept tour was brilliant

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Things to Improve:

- Home Works Energy needs better placement
- Move informational EV table next to EVs
- Move EV parking into middle of tables – on same level of the lot to give a better sense of community and direction – too spread out at the canopy
- Place all transportation together
- All tables/displays/equipment need to be staffed to attract people
- Toys at the canopy were not obvious and too far from tables for adults to let little kids engage comfortably
- Can't confirm the dates too many times – one exhibitor got the date wrong!
- More signage for out of towners – restrooms
- Some discussion about separating food (vegetarian vs not) or co-locating food and trash receptacles – people didn't recycle or compost; mostly trash, but that may be because they brought their own drink containers?
- Ferns needed signage and a more prominent location
- A lot of walking for people with young children or mobility concerns
- Discussion about moving the fire truck to the Town Common, but the Chief really wants people to visit the station
- Makers Market were disappointed with traffic despite signage
- Risky to do everything outdoors in April. Plan B as outlined would have been difficult to implement. Consider moving as much as possible to an indoor space.

Eric had to leave at this point.

**3. Outreach and Future Events – Part 1: lots of potential -**

- Heat Pump Event May 24<sup>th</sup>.
- Old Home Day
- Sue to give her COAHS talk
- Speakers with/at the library

**4. Town Meeting Prep – moved to this discussion out of respect for Jeremy's time and need to ensure it is concluded in this meeting**

- Article 13: Cori Stage Lighting - Presentation by Jeremy Behrle
  - Extensive discussion of the technical needs: 120 lights,
  - expensive, 40-year-old bulbs burn out in days, not the 2000 hours expected due to age of the setup.
  - Dimmer system is 2400 amps – draws 55000 watts of power for lighting not including HVAC draw to keep space cool – very hot.
  - 1 hour equals 2 days of regular lighting power usage.
  - \$280,000 investment has a 5-year payback period and 83% energy savings taking 55,000 watts usage to approximately 9000 watts
  - Less light bulb switching with associated labor and hazard

Eric returned at this point

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- Data issues with the school in the summer – seems like usage is way too high
- Can't isolate the auditorium in the data
- Discussion of whether adding controls in the schools might help with energy efficiency identification through both better data and better control
- Glenn to Jeremy – emphasize operating cost savings in ATM presentation, as you are doing today
- Other advice – need to get parents to ATM, prepare and practice, ESC supports energy conservation
- Eversource rebates possible? Custom or prescriptive path?
- No question this proposal will save the town energy and money over the long term
- **Vote: Bob moved that the ESC recommend article 13 at Annual Town Meeting. Eric seconded. All were in favor.**
- Jeremy left shortly after his presentation
- Article 12: Hybrid Cruiser
  - Need additional information about cruiser to discuss
  - Can meet before ATM if wish to take a position based on new info
  - ATM website has up to date presentations

Glenn left.

- Article 14: Greenough Barn Deconstruction
    - Lots of discussion regarding desire to have barn preserved in place, moved/reused, practicality of either of these options, strategy with regard to deconstruction vs simple demolition if those are the only choices, opportunity for education. Difficulty taking a position along the continuum of options, since some felt not all possibilities for relocation and reuse had been fully explored, but not wanting to end up at worst case, which is demolition not deconstruction.
    - **Vote: Eric made the motion that: Deconstruction is preferable to demolition because 85% of demolition waste ends up in a landfill, however, the ESC has not taken a position on this article. Christina was the second, and all were in favor.**
    - Individual members agreed to speak individually at ATM on the issue if they so desired, and would also continue researching possibilities for a better outcome for this historic structure.
5. **Select Board and Planning Board Matters – Part 1 – taken out of order because Barney had to leave**
- Barney left after conveying congratulations on behalf of the Select Board on the renegotiation of the CCA and a reminder of the ESC's commitment to educate the public about the benefits and the program in the fall.
6. **Outreach and Events continued (part 2)**

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- Debbie has created a new page on the website for events. There is a link to the events page on every screen. Please look at the page. ESC items are in green. Note that Sue is speaking in Groton on May 4<sup>th</sup>. Please help Debbie add events!
  - Christina wondered if we need to archive old website pages. She will find out. All were advised to take MMA webinar on OML and public record keeping.
  - Christina noted that she believes sandwich boards were effective for RTSD. But we need a strategy for edges of town to reach those who do not travel through the center but are instead traveling to border towns. Should ESC look to buy used boards? Borrow? Issues with them breaking, needing to be put back upright, permission from landowners if not public land.
  - Christina – outreach channels: LTE in the Mosquito as well as ads, CITW, Town newsletter, library collaboration, PTO was supportive, COAHS weekly e publication. Christina has the list and the contact people and can share with others. Small flyers on bulletin boards were effective. Be selective with the School – don't overwhelm. Christina agreed to draft a list of outreach channels.
  - Other lessons learned from RTSD: 2/3 posters were effective size at the tables, Concord Printer may be cheaper and easier to deal with than Staples. Can try to pay later in store at Staples using tax certificate, but no guarantee.
7. **Select Board and Planning Board Matters – Part 2**
- **The MVP grant, as discussed at the last meeting, requires letters of support. Will ESC provide one? Christina moves that ESC vote to write a letter of support for the MVP grant application. Bob seconded. All in favor.**

**Annual Town Meeting: May 8<sup>th</sup>, Corey Auditorium, 7:00 PM. Possible ESC meeting at 6:30.**

**Next Meeting:** May 11, 2023 at 4:30pm

**Adjournment:** Debbie adjourned meeting at 6:41 pm

**Minutes:**

- Minutes prepared and submitted by Sue Thomas, Sustainability Coordinator
- Minutes approved by the CESC on May 11, 2023

**Attachments:**

- Zoom chat included below:

00:32:38 Susan Thomas: CLOver was very accommodating as well.  
00:46:42 Eric Balles / W1ENB: will be back shortly  
01:06:45 Jeremy Behrle: Thank you  
01:09:59 Kathy Hardcastle: I am here!!!

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01:10:09 Kathy Hardcastle: Not sure why I sound not working!!  
01:10:10 Kathy Hardcastle: Aye  
01:10:16 Kathy Hardcastle: Sorry !!  
01:11:43 Glenn Reed, Carlisle: I need to leave at 5:45  
01:24:35 Kathy Hardcastle: Isn't saying that we prefer it's not taken down  
but if it has to be etc... - the same thing really as just saying if it has to be..  
01:31:54 Susan Thomas: I think the Westford moderator would shut you  
down as making a policy statement, not a yay or no on the motion.  
01:32:15 Susan Thomas: You could ask Wayne  
01:46:21 Kathy Hardcastle: Thanks Susan interesting to know that  
01:48:04 Barney Arnold: Our current moderator would allow a short  
statement that ends with: the ESC has not taken a position on this article.