

Carlisle Energy Task Force  
Minutes of the Meeting on September 10, 2020

(Virtual Zoom) Meeting convened at 7:02 PM

Present: Bob Zogg, Addie Grady, Brian Mottershead, Launa Zimmaro  
(Guests: John Golis, Glenn Reed)

Minutes: Launa Zimmaro

7:00 PM: Elect Officers

- **FY2021 Chair: Bob Zogg**
  - Nominated by Launa Zimmaro; seconded by Addie Grady. Unanimous vote by members to appoint Bob Zogg as Chair.
- **FY2021 Vice-Chair: Launa Zimmaro**
  - Nominated by Bob Zogg; seconded by Addie Grady. Unanimous vote by members to appoint Launa Zimmaro as Chair.
- **Secretary** will rotate among members excepting the Chair. Unanimously agreed.  
**Discussion: Bob suggested, and all agreed, that Secretary will plan to get draft minutes out within 5 days of all meetings.** Members are asked to send comments to the secretary well in advance of the next meeting so he/she can update the draft minutes and have them ready for approval at the next meeting.

7:15 PM: Approve previous minutes (June)

- Members voted unanimously to accept June 2020 minutes as drafted.

7:20 PM: October Meeting – reschedule

- New meeting date: Monday October 12, 2020 7:00 PM – 8:30 PM.
  - Rescheduled from Monday October 5, 2020 because of conflict with Master Planning Committee presentation to Planning Committee.

7:25 PM: Municipal Solar and EV Charging Station—Bob

- Solar panels are being installed; unsure when project will be completed.
- No success yet connecting with Ameresco re the EV Charging Stations for the school site; Eversource was gating progress at last report. Bob Zogg will pursue this, picking up this task from Jonathan DeKock who resigned from the Committee earlier this summer.

7:30 PM: Community Choice Aggregation Contract—Bob

- Last January (2020), Carlisle signed an agreement to continue working with Colonial Power, our current broker, for this upcoming cycle. Bob and Glenn, who Tim Goddard appointed to serve on a CCA advisory committee in spring 2020, became aware of this agreement through an email communication from Mr. Goddard on August 28, 2020.

Glenn and Bob had recommended, in the interests of due diligence, to engage in discussions with alternative brokers, but it's not clear if that will be possible.

At this point, Glenn and Bob will work with Tim to consider the various options available to the Town and make recommendation to the BOS.

Discussion of this topic during the 9/10/20 ETF meeting focused on two key issues

- Understanding the decision-making process and communication issues
- The true nature of "green energy" options. i.e., which "green CCA options" provide the greatest emissions reductions and/or help the growth of the renewable energy industry

All members agreed that:

- CCAs and renewable energy certificates (RECs) are complicated and confusing for many
- The ETF needs to develop a better understanding of the value of CCA product options in terms of our mission to work to reduce emissions
- The need to communicate the benefits/"costs" (financial and otherwise) to members of the community so that the community is clear on what the choices actually represent, while facilitating the transition to greener energy sources for those who seek to make this transition
- Passing on CCA option for this cycle was also raised as a question to explore

8:00 PM: Green Communities—Bob

- Completing, implementing and reporting on grant projects is extremely time and labor intensive. Without more support from Town staff and/or a Sustainability Coordinator, the work would fall to our all-volunteer Committee. Historically, the CETF struggled to keep up with reporting requirements and concluded that it was not sustainable without more support from Town staff.

The consensus was that the ETF would not pursue a Green Communities grant this year, but that we wait to hear recommendations from the Master Planning Committee regarding environmental/climate change goals so we can align any potential grant request with those goals.

Funds for municipal environmental projects/planning that would include salaries for Sustainability Directors may also be available in 2021, depending on legislation pending in the State House.

8:15 PM: Master Plan Update—Bob

- With the departure of Civic Moxie and unfinished work, the final report from the Master Plan Committee will be significantly delayed. Bob expects a new schedule to be released in the near future.
- The Master Planning Committee will brief the Planning Board on its status on October 5, 2020, including a proposed revised plan/timeline for the master plan. Bob Zogg is a member of the Master Plan Steering Committee, as well as a member of an advisory committee supporting George Mansfield to help develop the revised plan/timeline.

**8:30 PM: Establish FY2021 Priorities and Next Steps**

- Green Communities – see above
- Carlisle Goals/Sustainability Director – see above
- Community outreach channels
  - There was consensus that the ETF needs to “build” its communications channels not only to better communicate issues like CCA, but on other matters relevant to the accomplishments, goals and mission of the ETF.
  - Bob Zogg recommended that we enhance our communication channels with the community, starting with our webpage on the Town website. Brian Mottershead volunteered to assess website options for the Committee. Brian’s is a website developer.
  - We also discussed options for use of a file-sharing system that would allow CETF members to share/collaborate on work in progress and archive documents via the Town website, DropBox and/or Google Docs, etc. Currently, material is spread across the computer landscape of members past and present. Launa Zimmaro volunteered to check in with Peggy Wang (Town Clerk), regarding file-sharing options and conditions that might apply to our use (to comply with OML).

The meeting adjourned at 8:41 PM.