



**Master Plan Advisory Committee's
Climate Change Resiliency and Sustainability Work Group
Meeting Minutes**

Date: 2/08/2019

Time: 1:30 - 3:30

Location: History Room, Lawrence Library

Meeting was called to order at 1:39 PM

Attending: Sherrill Rosoff, Rob Rand, Renee D'Argento, Jack Visnewski

Guest: Tony Beattie

Not attending: Ken Hartlage, Paula Terassi

1. Open Forum

Tony Beattie was present as a guest of the committee. He had met with the Town Administrator who talked about his interest in green energy. They had a discussion about alternative energy sources such as biomass composting, growing industrial hemp (which a recent federal farm bill has legalized and requires a \$600 licensing fee in order to grow the crop). The Town Administrator asked Tony to investigate anaerobic composting processing which takes heat from composting and turns it into energy. He's interested in finding out about the business model for a processing plant and he will be giving Tony contact information of people whom Tony can get in touch with to find out more about the processing and what the market might be. The goal is to determine if an anaerobic processing plant can be operationalized to help the town become energy self-sufficient.

- There are several questions related to the above: how does a town collaborate with the electric utility company regarding bringing alternative energy into the grid? And what is the state of the grid infrastructure? And where would such a plant be located?
- Tony Beattie will keep the committee in touch about his success connecting with people regarding alternative energy options for the town.

2. Minutes of the 1/9/19 and 1/11/19 meetings were read and approved.

3. Work Session

- Renee will continue to reach out to Anne Huston to learn more about Littleton's Master Plan Implementation Committee and its oversight functions. Gaining information about such committees being formed by towns having completed a master plan process is important to us, as we continue to craft general recommendations for our Sustainability Report - and to urge the MPAC to include an Implementation committee in its final recommendations.
- The committee, after some discussion, concluded that Pepperell's efforts to plan for Affordable Housing has not extended beyond the last Affordable Housing Plan and the now defunct Affordable Housing Committee.
- The decision was made to reach out to PACH and Roland Nutter, who is on the PACH board of directors, to discuss homelessness in the town. Renee D'Argento agreed to take on contacting Roland Nutter and PACH director.
- Jack Visnewski expressed an interest in staying connected to our committee; however, he is in a transition period with his business and he may not be able to come to our committee meetings regularly.
- Rob Rand suggested that a Solar bylaw may be under consideration by the Board of Selectmen.
- The committee reviewed the information about the Municipal Affordable Housing Trust and a discussion ensued about establishing a Trust versus an Affordable Housing Committee. The State has established this Housing Trust vehicle so that towns can create an income stream through the Trust to expand affordable housing. Neighboring towns use grant money from the Community Preservation Act for use by the MAHT.
- The committee reviewed and offered edits to the affordable housing recommendations presented by Renee and Sherrill.
- Jack Visnewski once again mentioned the fact that Wayne Razzaboni owns a considerable amount of land around Railroad Square which could be developed to create a Village in an area that encompasses Kemp's garage, the shops from Breen's to Charlotte's restaurant, all the current parking area for those businesses, and land south of the parking area toward Lowell Five Cent Bank. He will approach the Town Administrator with the idea to get his reaction to it.
- Renee will finish writing the Needs Assessment for the committee's chapter on Affordable Housing.
- The next meeting of the committee will occur after the February 21st meeting of the Master Planning Committee. Sherrill will reach out to the committee to schedule the meeting, and secure a room.

4. Matters That May Be Raised That the Chair Didn't Reasonably Anticipate

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 PM.