



TOWN OF BOXBOROUGH NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING Meeting Minutes

BOARD/COMMITTEE: Sustainability Committee

MEETING DATE: September 8, 2021

TIME: 7:00pm

PLACE: Video conference

Members Present: Francie Nolde, Chair; Palmer Moore, Member; Chris DeLise, Member; Richard Garrison, Member; Barbara Salzman, Member

Members Absent: Suresh Jasrasaria, Member

Other Attendees: John Markiewicz, Select Board liaison; Johanna Choo, private citizen; Eric Whitney, private citizen

- 1) Roll call: Salzman, here; DeLise, here; Moore, here; Garrison, here; Nolde, here
- 2) Minutes: Nolde made a motion to accept the minutes from August 11, 2021; Salzman seconded; *Approved: 5-0 (roll call)*
- 3) Recycling in town: Nolde presented concerns expressed about certain community members, primarily commercial entities and condo/apartment complexes, not recycling; Salzman expressed interest in hearing from those members what the issues/roadblocks are to recycling; DeLise was curious to know where the recycling goes at this point, is it truly different than the solid waste given current recycling market issues; Garrison pointed out that the cardboard market is strong, but mixed plastics are challenging and most go to a waste-to-energy facility; Markiewicz suggested engaging with the school community to educate children about recycling issues in town and have them encourage parents to take action; Choo mentioned in most condo/apartment buildings where there isn't recycling, residents are reluctant to pay for it so recyclables go into trash. Residents don't have storage space to collect recyclables. ***Action Item(s): Garrison to set up site visit with Boxborough Regency; Nolde to check with DPW Director about contacting Waste Management for a recycling facility site visit; Nolde to contact Paddock Estates residents about recycling options; DeLise to contact Kate Crosby at ABRSD to see if student engagement would be possible.***
- 4) Sustainability goals: Nolde recalled the Interim Town Administrator suggested that nothing could get done without having the Select Board first adopt goals themselves; Salzman highlighted the Net Zero Stretch Code Home Rule, which allows municipalities to move ahead with a more aggressive code than what is currently required by the state; Moore suggested the need to mix in some small-scale goals in the midst of the various large-scale goals that have been laid out, perhaps something focused on education and/or volume

discounts related to heat pumps; *Nolde will arrange for BSC to meet with Select Board on Sept. 20, to ask them to adopt the Sustainability Policy revision and two of our goals, Carbon Emissions Study and Climate Action Plan.*

- 5) Boxborough2030 Master Plan progress report: Town Planner has requested response from the Committee by 10/1/21; *Nolde will use what the Committee originally sent the Planning Board and Town Planner to add “sustainability” throughout the 2030 plan. Nolde will also do an update on what we have accomplished concerning the applicable Aspirations.*
- 6) MassEnergize: DeLise provided an update on progress with the MassEnergize framework, working with Member Jasrasaria on first batch of initiatives to highlight; discussed changing from a town-owned body to a grassroots organization. *Francie will write John M. and Carter about asking Nick Lawler, LELD GM who donated \$750 to get the website started, to approve the switch, if anything needs to be done to change ownership, and any protocol for raising money in the future for annual costs to MassEnergize.*
- 7) FreeBee Market, Sept. 18, 10:30-12:00. *Chris and Francie will arrange a table. Barbara will draft a simple flyer with Net Zero Home actions from David Green.: HITS. Marjorie will bring 2040 Book Club materials. Francie will ask Heather about a “Conversation Tent.”*
- 8) Next meeting will be devoted to LELD solar policies and Heat Pump issues. (We deferred MCAN Net Zero Home Rule campaign.)
- 9) ARPA: Francie submitted a proposal for \$500,000.00 to renovate condo/apartment buildings by using Green resources to defray energy costs for renters who lost money during Covid-19. Francie reported there are 20 or more proposals. Perhaps some can be transferred to MVP grant plan.

List of Exhibits used, if any:

2022 Boxborough Sustainability Committee goals and priorities; Boxborough Sustainability Policy; ARPA proposal; Master Plan Progress Report; Open letter to Boxborough developers, builders, and RE agents.