

Freeport Sustainability Advisory Board: Agenda 9/25/2023
Location: Town Council Chambers, Town Hall Meeting at 6:30 PM

In attendance: Mandy MacPherson, Valy Steverlynck, Susana Hancock, Bob Stevens, Kristen Dorsey, Megan Shore, Meddy Smith (Sustainability Coordinator)

Taking minutes: Meddy

- **BEGIN MEETING 6:30 PM**
- **APPROVE MINUTES:**
 - A motion was made by Mandy to approve the Minutes of 9/11/23. Megan noted a change to the minutes to change 'agree' to 'discussion on' to reflect nature of conversation. Bob seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously. (6/0)
- **REFINING EMISSIONS DATA:**
 - The board continued discussion on the option to create a new contract with GPCOG to refine transportation data by month and by trip origin. There was a recap of discussion points in favor of this analysis, including that it will help us understand and better showcase how transportation strategies can reduce carbon emissions, in addition to tailoring strategies in this sector.
 - The group discussed what outcomes would be desired from this analysis, including monthly trips by vehicle type, a heat map of transportation activity if possible, and as many visuals as possible to help illustrate results.
 - The board voted to allocate funding from the FSAB budget and Meddy will request a contract and scope of work from GPCOG for the order of \$1,400 and bring the contract back to FSAB to confirm.
 - The board also recapped the discussion of the value of setting emissions reductions targets as previously recommended by FSAB and how comments to council at the upcoming meeting should be approached.
- **REVIEW TIMELINE OF CLIMATE PLANNING PROCESS & ACTION PLANNING**
 - The Sustainability Coordinator presented the original draft action list from GPCOG and initiated a discussion on how to move forward to use the list to engage stakeholders.
 - The group discussed how the action list as delivered was too much content to dive into and asked Meddy to request that GPCOG narrow the list before the board works to refine action ideas and bring them to stakeholders.
 - The board also discussed the general timeline of the planning process feeling rushed and noted a desire to postpone the second workshop until early 2024 and extend the process timeline into winter/early spring 2024.
 - Meddy noted that GPCOG will likely be opposed to extending the timeline as it is not in their contract and it will likely require more of their time in coordination beyond the

existing budget. Meddy will discuss the timeline extension request with Interim Town Manager and GPCOG.

- **STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT:**

- *TABLED*

- **LECTURE SERIES STRATEGY:**

- *TABLED*

- **TREE TASK FORCE UPDATE**

- Kristen reported that two red oak trees will be planted at the Park and Ride and plan is to plant understory in this location at a later date.
- The TTF is also coordinating with the Freeport Historic Society and UMaine Ash Tree Protection group to plan a public event together.
- TTF is waiting to hear back from the town attorney on the Tree Ordinance that has been in progress for many months and will look to move forward with that soon, in addition to bringing zoning amendments to the Planning Board.

- **OTHER ITEMS**

- Attending community member and Susana brought forth the issue of a Fossil Fuel Treaty Initiative and the group discussed adding this item to the next agenda to continue discussion of bringing it to council.
- Bob mentioned that Chalmers Hardenbergh is writing a newsletter roundup of public meetings to enhance civic engagement and streamline meeting minute review for the community to stay informed of public processes.

- **ADJOURN BY 8:00 PM:**