CAST Meeting Notes

April 6, 2022

Revisions to the March 23, 2022 Minutes: Ashton, Laura and John reviewed the areas of expertise in various departments and committees and then delegated possible responsibilities of the Climate Action Plan. They compiled this work in the form of a list that was discussed during the April 6 meeting.

The sentence in the March 23 minutes saying that Dana will draft a memo was deleted.

Point of clarification: This committee will now be reporting to the Selectboard in July (not August). The reason for the change was to line up our work with the budget cycle. This committee will report to the SB in May as well.

Discussion of the List of CAP goals as they pertain to Town Boards, Commissions and Departments: Laura will revise the list because the page numbers from the print version do not coincide with the PDF document posted on the site. The revised list will include citations for both the PDF and printed versions so that electronic and hard copy users are served.

John asked what are we going to do with this list? Should a communication go to each commission/board asking them about their priorities, how they will implement those priorities and what is the timeline for meeting those priorities? Caroline recapped that questions noted in the March 23 minutes as a starting point for such a memo.

These are the question we drafted on March 23

1) What goals of the Climate Action Plan are you currently working on?
2) What goals are you planning to implement in the next year?
3) Do you have a timeline for completing those goals?
4) Are there any goals that you need additional resources to meet? (I.E. funding, volunteer labor consultants etc.)

During the discussion idea was raised about adding a fifth question to the memo. This question could be: Are there other things related to climate change that you are aware of that hasn’t been included in the CAP or should be delegated to your group?

In addition, it was agreed that CAST members can make themselves available to various groups if these groups need help going through the plan.

Dana said we’ll have until to have until May to draft this memo.

In reviewing the list piece by piece the following actions were taken.

Climate Advisory Committee & Community Resilience Organization Apologies. I was still having audio problems when we discussed the first two items on the list and my notes are confused. Can someone fill me on what was decided here and I’ll amend the minutes?

Conservation Commission: Lee will be the liaison. Local food and agriculture is not be a good fit for the commission unless the project involves putting a conservation easement on a property. Fresh water resources, unless they are wetland and vernal pools, are not a good fit for the commission.
**Energy Commission:** Molly and Jesse act as the liaison with this group. They will be the connection to other groups like the Historic Preservation Committee.

**Committee of Racial Inclusion:** Carolyn and Laura are the liaisons.

**Municipal Building Advisory Committee** was taken off the list.

**Parks and Rec**: There was a question of climate change and lawn care in terms of Parks and Rec. Laura review the CAP see if the sections assigned to Parks and Rec include the suggestions about lawn care. If not, those sections should also be assigned to Parks and Rec.

**Planning Commission:** John will handle.

**Tree Board:** John will follow up with them.

**WRJ Design Review:** John will handle.

**Zoning:** John will handle.

**Electric Vehicles:** On April 23 Hartford will be part of the Drive Electric event being held in Norwich. The EV guide is in round 6 of editing. It will eventually be available online and in print.