



Town of Barnstable Infrastructure and Energy Committee

Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, May 28, 2024, at 5:00PM

This meeting of the Barnstable Infrastructure & Energy Committee is being recorded and will be posted for future viewing on the Town of Barnstable website. Under MGL Chapter 30A Section 20, anyone else desiring to make such a recording or transmission must notify the Chair.

Remote Participation Instructions

The Infrastructure and Energy Committee's Public Hearing will be held by remote participation methods. Real-time public comment can be addressed to the Infrastructure & Energy Committee utilizing the Zoom link and access code for remote access below:

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://townofbarnstable-us.zoom.us/j/81185779775?pwd=IWwpaqEVRQXL3rbEwApX5INmtAB6b.1>

Meeting ID: 811 8577 9775

Passcode: 568500

Infrastructure and Energy Committee Members present: (On Zoom)

Barry Sheingold, Chair; Jane Ward; Rob Wilson; John Solomon; Chris Gloninger

Infrastructure and Energy Committee Members absent:

Peter Doyle; William Beal

Others in Attendance: (On Zoom)

Kristin Terkelsen, Town Councillor; Ethan Parmentier, Falmouth High School Composting Program; Kelly Collopy, Communications Manager Department of Public Works

Agenda:

1. Call to order
2. Approval of May 7, 2024, Meeting Minutes
3. Old Business
 - ~~3 a. New Member Appointments~~
 - ~~i. William Beal introduction~~
 - ~~ii. Review of current committee initiatives~~

iii. ~~New member thoughts/ideas~~

3 b. Food Waste

- i. Ethan Parmentier, Falmouth High School Composting Program
- ii. Relevant Updates

3 c. Green Communities

- i. Relevant Updates

4. New Business

- 4 a. Additional updates from Committee Chair
- 4 b. Scheduling of remaining 2024 Committee meetings
- 4 c. Discuss agenda for next meeting

5. Motion to Adjourn

Call to Order:

Barry Sheingold, Chair, called the May 28, 2024, meeting of the Infrastructure and Energy Committee (IEC) to order at 5:02 PM. The meeting of the Infrastructure and Energy Committee was held remotely.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Barry Sheingold, Chair, moves to discuss the May 7, 2024, meeting minutes. Jane Ward moves the motion to approve the May 7, 2024, meeting minutes, Sheingold seconds. John Solomon abstains from voting, as he was not in attendance at the last meeting. The Committee voted unanimously to approve the May 7, 2024, meeting minutes.

Old Business

a. New Member Appointments

William Beal was not in attendance.

b. Food Waste

Discussion opens with Ethan Parmentier, of the Falmouth High School Composting Program, who attended the Big Blue Conference where he met Committee Member Jane Ward. Jane felt his experience with composting at the school system level, would be beneficial insight for the Committee. Ethan provided an overview for the Committee including:

- Composting managed by vendor, Black Earth
 - Various clubs and academic programs also composting their own gardening scraps
- Falmouth High School has partnered with Local Food Justic Organization
 - Greenhouse and onsite garden are a key part a two-credit, semester-long course called "Race, Food, and Climate"
 - Program uses composted materials to help grow food for the school
 - Gardening Club and Agriculture Club also working in tandem
- Falmouth High School has a Pollinator Garden as well and is looking to develop a Heritage Garden – ultimately the school is looking to be as sustainable as possible
 - 6/7 schools in the district are all composting, the 7th school will begin composting as early as this week
- Curriculum as part of the Race, Food, and Climate academic course are beginning to incorporate outreach and public education to encourage at-home composting by students/families
- Additional signage and education at school recently implemented within cafeterias and in the culinary classroom setting to help engage students and faculty in composting, including

- education about what can/cannot be composted
- Ethan addressed questions from Committee members including any roadblocks to adoption; Ethan noted that there wasn't a large 'roll out' at first, bins just placed around school with the assumption that students would 'know what to do'
 - This has since changed, and a more targeted effort has been made to education students and faculty
- Ethan to provide Jane and the Committee with contact information for the liaison who is assisting the Falmouth School District

Barry Sheingold, Chair, moves to discuss additional Food Waste updates. Kelly Collopy, DPW Communications Manager working through updated communications plan and storyboarding of Food Composting video via Barnstable Government Access. Kelly to work with Jane and other Committee members re: sourcing food composting experts for educational video.

Sheingold also recaps conversation about working with Inspectional Services to educate and enforce policies surrounding commercial waste limits.

c. Green Community Designation

Barry Sheingold, Chair, has been in touch with a contact on the Falmouth Energy Committee. Hopes to have further conversations regarding Falmouth's approach. Sheingold is also establishing contacts with Habitat for Humanity. Also aiming to have Lisa Sullivan of DOER attend a future meeting to discuss Green Community Designation process.

Additionally, Alison Alessi, local green architect, will be in attendance at the next Committee meeting (June 10, 2024). Alessi has previously shared that it 'hurts' builders that Barnstable is the only community on the Cape that is not a Green Community.

The Committee moves on to discuss the timeline and approach to be taken when addressing Town Council. Some of the criteria/content is new, compared to when Green Community Designation was first brought to previous Council(s). Potential for a special Town Council workshop. Councilor Kristin Terkelsen also recommends that the Committee meet with Brian Florence, Director of Inspectional Services, prior to presenting anything to Town Council, to better understand his point of view, any concerns he may have, how he would see initiatives like Stretch Code being implemented, etc.

Sheingold looks to see if a volunteer would be willing to help lead the Green Community sub-committee; Jane Ward volunteers to assist.

New Business

a. Additional Updates from Committee Chair and Committee Members

- Barry Sheingold, Chair, circles back on request to receive a copy of Barnstable's comments for the Commission on Energy Infrastructure Siting and Permitting public survey. All public comments are available online via MassDEP. Councilor Kristin Terkelsen will send link to download comments; Kelly to distribute.
- Jane Ward shares positive review of recent Special Town Council Meeting on Embayment and Water Quality Monitoring. Wards shares additional upcoming meetings including: Urine Diversion Workshop hosted by Waquoit Bay Reserve on Thursday, May 30, and the Waquoit Cape Coastal Conference on Tuesday, June 18.

- Special Town Council Workshop: Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan on Thursday, June 13.
- b. Scheduling of Remaining 2024 Committee Meetings
- July – December meetings to be scheduled
 - Barry Sheingold, Chair, suggests circulating a draft schedule for Committee member review/approval; will aim to keep Monday evening schedule. Jane Ward adds that in previous years the summer meeting schedule has been reduced to one (1) meeting per month.
- c. Discuss Next Meeting Agenda
- Reminder that Alison Alessi, of A3 Architects, has RSVP'd to the June 10, 2024, meeting. Alison will provide insight into the Stretch Code and her experience with the Green Communities Designation process.

Barry Sheingold entertains a motion to adjourn the meeting, Jane Ward moves, and Peter Doyle seconds. The Committee voted unanimously. The meeting is adjourned at 5:53PM.

Next Meeting: June 10, 2024, at 5:00PM

DRAFT Upcoming Agenda for June 10, 2024

1. Call to order
2. Approval of May 28, 2024, Meeting Minutes
3. Old Business
 - 3 a. Green Communities
 - i. Alison Alessi, A3 Architects, to provide information on Stretch Code and Green Communities Designation process
 - ii. Relevant updates
 - 3 b. Food Waste
 - i. Relevant updates
4. New Business
 - 4 a. Additional updates from Committee Chair
 - 4 b. Review proposed meeting schedule for remainder of 2024
 - July 15
 - August 12
 - September 9 and 23
 - October 14 and 28
 - November 11 and 25
 - December 9 and 23
 - 4 c. Discuss agenda for next meeting
5. Motion to Adjourn

Respectfully submitted by Kelly Collopy, Communications Manager, Barnstable Department of Public Works.