



TOWN OF MOUNT DESERT SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE SUMMARY

Thursday, June 16, 2022

Mount Desert 365 and electronic

Northeast Harbor

Members Present:

Phil Lichtenstein, Chair

Dennis Shubert

Sydney Roberts Rockefeller

Kathy Miller

1. The Chair open the meeting by thanking Mount Desert 365 for hosting the meeting.
2. The minutes of the May 19, 2022 meeting were review and accepted.
3. The Chair briefly reviewed the Climate Ambassador program that will be starting this summer. He pointed out that members of this committee have interest and background and urged members to participate if possible.
4. The steering committee for the Community Resilience Partnership met the day prior. Included were Phil, John McCauley, Johana Blackman, Jeff Woods and Tony Smith. Tony's participation is essential and appreciated.
5. The Community Action Grant has committed us to:
 - a. Develop a curriculum to be utilized to train 200 community climate ambassadors by May 2024
 - b. Increase community climate awareness by listening and educational sessions culmination in a in a Climate Resources Fair in the Spring of 2023 with video records of events posted to Town websites
 - c. Promote decarbonization of building by electrifying where possible replacing carbon-based fuels with Maine's profile of 70% renewable electricity. This will require removing barriers by education and reduction of electrification costs by bulk purchasing.
 - d. Reduce carbon production associated with transportation by promoting battery electric vehicles and augmenting each town's charging resources. (Two new charging locations in TMD)

Budget Worksheet			
Project Task	Funds Requested	Other Funds	Total Project Budget
Task 1 (Climate Ambassadors Program)	10,197	8,500	18,697
Task 2 (Climate Action Plan Outreach)	9,315	3,735	13,050
Task 3 (Decarbonizing Buildings Outreach)	3,825		3,825
Task 4 (Electric Vehicle Outreach)	2,385		2,385
Task 5 (Electric Vehicle Charger Purchase & Installation)	66,000		66,000
Total	91,722		103,957

6. The committee is waiting for the RLC audit of the Town Garage that should be available very soon.
7. The chair explained the role of free Efficiency Maine Scoping audits and expressed support for such an audit for the Elementary School as a good starting point. Scoping audits are intended to “provide businesses with the opportunity to get a professional consultation on their facility’s specific energy use and identify cost-effective energy efficiency projects that will reduce operating expenses.
8. It has been announced that the Municipal Review Committee will be purchasing the Hampden recycling facility as it was the only bidder. The MRC anticipates that it will need 20 mm to properly restart the facility. The sources of funds have not been identified.
9. The group discussed at length the success of other communities to build large solar farms. The group consensus is that TMD has two non-exclusive options. One is to add roof top solar where possible on town owned building. The other is to build a minimum of 4-acre farm. Some members suggested that off island sites may be most appropriate given, the value of island land, absence of Town owned land that could be cleared, and opposition to views of large farms.
10. The chair charged the committee to review the documents for the next round of Community Resilience Grants due September 20, 2022.

11. The next meeting of the committee is July 21 at 1630 at the Town office.