



## **TOWN OF MOUNT DESERT SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE SUMMARY**

**Thursday, December 22, 2022**

**Town Meeting Room and electronic**

**Northeast Harbor**

Members Present:

Phil Lichtenstein, Chair

Dennis Shubert

Troy Julian

John McCauley

Kathy Miller

Meg Ashur

Donna Reiza

1. The summary of the November 17, 2022 meeting was accepted.
2. The Chair explained that grant funding was approved for Climate Task Force activities:
  - a. Assistance in compiling the proposed Town greenhouse gas inventory
  - b. Assistance with the process on behalf of the Town to develop a solar farm to offset the Town's electricity use. The group discussed the process to develop and build a solar farm. The consensus emerged that the proper process was for the Town to release a Request for Proposal that would ask the selected vendor to identify the size of a solar farm needed, identify potential sites on and off the island, provide a financial plan to include any potential impact on taxpayers and develop a technical description that would allow the Town to bid the project on the site to be chosen by the Town.
3. The committee asked the chair to invite Brian Henkel, the recently chosen Public Works Director, to the February 16, 2023, meeting.
4. Mr. McCauley agreed to ask the Town Manager for an update on Efficiency Maine supported project to assess interior lighting at the Town garage and Town office for LED updating.
5. The committee discussed again the proposed EV Charger policy. A member raised the question that whether the final policy might actually have to be a warrant article. Discussion clarified that the proposed policy is intended to clarify the Town's management of EV chargers intended for public use. Discussion clarified that EV chargers for Town vehicle use are separate. The issues seemed clearer when the group thought of EV chargers as they would at a gas station. The Town would not open a gas

- station to compete with private enterprise but would provide gas and diesel for its own vehicles. The Town also would provide public EV chargers now to support its sustainability goals during the early phase of development of the EV charger market.
6. Otter Creek Inner Harbor Environmental Study: The committee briefly discussed its role in this issue. The consensus is that the committee welcomes the opportunity to review and comment on any scientific studies undertaken of the inner harbor. The understanding is that Chris Peterson is presently leading such study.
  7. Future EV charger locations: The committee discussed the process for determining future EV charger locations should TMD be awarded future chargers. There was no consensus on process however the group considered Maple Lane Apartments, Seal Harbor upper parking lot for public chargers and the Town Office as well as the Somesville Fire Station for town vehicle chargers. The chair volunteered to connect with Maple Lane management and Marina management about the locations.

The next meeting of the Sustainability Committee will be 1/19/2023 at 1630 at the Town Meeting Room and Zoom.