

Oak Bluffs Climate and Energy Advisory Committee

Friday March 12, 2021 3:00-4:00

Via Zoom

MINUTES

Attendance: Marilyn Miller, Craig Saunders, Peter Meleney, Bill Cleary

Absent: Gino Mazzaferro, Si Shapiro

Invited Guest: Oak Bluffs Asst. Town Manager, Wendy Brough, Oak Bluffs Conservation/Environmental Planner, Elisabeth Peterman

Topic 1: Approval of minutes of February 26, 2021 meeting, all in favor

Topic 2: Meeting with asst. Town Manager Wendy Brough, and OB's new Conservation/environmental planner to discuss our roles and climate related projects for the Town under review:

We all introduced ourselves. Lis Peterman talked of her prior experience, graduating from URI with a science degree and her work with the R.I. Dept. of Agriculture. Climate issues. The Town has had a Coastal Resilience Committee in the past made up of the Harbor Master, shellfish constable, highway superintendent, wastewater com. member and Wendy. There are projects in the planning stages, one being the jetties entering the harbor. As Lis becomes more familiar with the Town other projects will be discussed. It was the beginning of a long term look at changes in infrastructure the town will need to under take to adapt to climate change. Other important OB concerns mentioned were the SSA dock, the harbor and Sunset lake connector, the Hospital and our local economy

Topic 3: Update on the green Community designation:

Bill and Marilyn and Craig are continuing their energy use assessments of town buildings with help from CLC. We are working on an energy reduction plan hopefully funded by State grants and CLC. We are waiting for the passage of Annual Town meeting Articles addressing the Stretch Energy Code and a Zoning Article revision to establish an as of right zone for renewable energy related efforts.

Under other related topics:

The slow progress of CVEC sponsored solar and battery projects. The Landfill project still awaiting a Grid study, the OB School solar has been postponed until school lets out for the summer over fears of Covid 19 spread. The Town hall, library and police station are still in planning stages

The meeting was adjourned shortly after 4:00

Next meeting scheduled for March 26, 2021 at 3:00 via Zoom