



Town of
Brighton

Sustainability Oversight
Committee

Secretary – Mike Guyon

Sustainability Oversight Committee
August 7, 2017

Draft Meeting Minutes

Attendance: Paul Tankel, Margy Peet, Ron Wexler, Mike Guyon, Leyla Mouli, Zohar Baruch, Evert Garcia, Rob Levine (Guest)

Minutes: The July 2017 meeting minutes were not reviewed at this meeting.

Open Forum:

Announcements:

Old Business

- Citizen's Climate Lobby Presentation
 - Robert Levine from Citizen's Climate Lobby gave a presentation on the basics of a Carbon Fee and Dividend policy. The Citizen's Climate Lobby is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, grassroots advocacy organization focused on the passage of a Carbon Fee and Dividend legislation in order to combat climate change.
 - A carbon fee and dividend policy is a national, revenue-neutral carbon fee-and-dividend system (CF&D) which would place a predictable, steadily rising price on carbon, with all fees collected minus administrative costs returned to households as a monthly energy dividend.
 - The carbon fee itself is based on the amount of carbon in a fossil fuel, measured in tons of carbon dioxide the fuel would generate, and it would be collected at the earliest point of entry into the economy — well, mine or port. Robert presented documentation on different approaches to the fee being proposed by both political parties in congress. Town staff will scan in the handouts and distribute to the SOC for reference.
 - The Citizen's Climate Lobby helped the City of Rochester draft the previously discussed proclamation to the United States Congress which indicates support for a Carbon Fee and Dividend Policy. Robert indicated that the Citizen's Climate Lobby intent is to gather enough local support to demonstrate to State representative the importance of this subject so that ultimately, legislation on this matter is considered on a Federal level.
 - The SOC deliberated on how to bring this matter to the Supervisor and the Town Board's attention. Robert indicated that the next step for the SOC to assist Citizen's Climate Lobby would be to draft a letter of support from the SOC to the Town Supervisor. This matter will be discussed further at the next SOC meeting.

- Climate Action Plan
 - Zoe gave a presentation on the status of the Town's Climate Action Plan. A draft version of the Climate Action Plan along with an executive summary have been completed and are available for review.
 - The SOC discussed adjusting the CAP goals based on preliminary calculations which indicate that GHG reducing actions deemed attainable by 2030 might not be sufficient to meet the proposed reduction targets. The proposed reduction targets, which match the targets set by New York State's REV strategy, appear to be difficult to attain from the Town's base line year of 2014. Technically, GHG reduction goals have been met by the Town if an earlier baseline year such as 2001 is considered.
 - The SOC asked Town staff to revise the initial GHG reduction calculations based on a more aggressive implementation of target and stretch goals.
 - The SOC provided comments and feedback on the draft CAP based on the review of various members of the committee in attendance. Town staff will compile all of the comments discussed at the meeting and incorporate into the final CAP document.
 - Town staff would like to receive final comments from the SOC on the Climate Action Plan by August 14th. Zoe will update the CAP per comments received prior to her last day with the Town on August 18, 2017.
- Development Update
 - The latest developments on projects within the Town were briefly discussed.

New Business

Adjournment

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be September 6, 2017 at 7:00 PM.