



MEETING MINUTES

DATE: October 26, 2022
PLACE: Remote meeting via Zoom
MEMBERS PRESENT: Brad Moyer (Chair), Elliott Place, Kathy Reardon, Nancy Wiley, Carlos DaSilva, Maria Zade, Beth Porter, Alyson Anderson
MEMBERS ABSENT: Bob Hidell, Thomas Morahan and Gary Tondorf-Dick
GUESTS: Brenda Black
ATTACHMENTS:

The Chair called the duly noticed meeting to order at 6:32pm and presented the Virtual Open Meeting Protocol and Procedures as outlined in the Governor's Chapter 22 Pandemic Directive of 2022.

Discussion of possible statement on Hingham's Foster School Building Project:

Brad Moyer began with a recap of the discussion regarding possible approaches for Hingham Foster School, and the extent to which this committee may or may not wish to weigh in on the matter following that discussion.

He stated that a draft proposed resolution or statement by this committee had been provided before the meeting for the purpose of discussion if CAPC wants to offer any other statements or thoughts on making no statement at all.

He presented the current draft that had been provided for discussion:

"Hingham's mission for the CAPC is to evaluate carbon-emission reduction strategies and propose measures to guide the Town and its many constituencies to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2040 or another date deemed feasible. It is not our mission to pass judgment on whether the efforts of those constituencies are aligned with these measures, particularly when we have not yet finished our work and formally propagated any. In this vein, the School Building Committee (SBC) has not asked the CAPC to evaluate its proposed carbon-reduction measures for the design of Foster School, and neither have we done so. However, we understand through the SBC's public process that the SBC has considered and promoted various options to incorporate carbon-reduction considerations in the proposed Foster School design. We are appreciative of and applaud these efforts and the efforts of all who seek to aid Hingham in achieving its net zero carbon emissions goals, and strongly encourage the SBC and the Town to continue to incorporate carbon reduction considerations in its designs and processes."



Kathy felt the statement was great and included the suggestion that it not be offered unless the committee was specifically asked to do so.

Carlos suggested a change to show that CAPC is supportive of the efforts of those that want to embrace our goal. This was echoed by Alyson.

Elliot felt that it was already stated and did not need to say it further.

Maria included that we should be realistic about how much people read and move the positive part to the beginning of the statement.

Kathy wanted to make sure that “these efforts” were referring to the school building.

Elliot suggested removing the reference to efforts as not relevant.

The group discussed making clear what was within the mission and ensuring that readers of the statement would clearly understand that we did not evaluate the building plans yet still were positive of the efforts made towards carbon neutrality.

Kathy asked about how this statement would be utilized. Brad explained his view that it could be stated at Town Meeting by a citizen and would act as the official statement if the committee were asked their view.

Kathy was wondering about spoken vs. written statements since someone may not read all the way until the end.

Some additional changes were made to the final paragraph for grammar and to ensure it made sense as read.

After some back and forth on the use of the word support, it was determined that could be taken as “approve” and was not the intent of the committee and the statement struck a good balance of appreciation while not having been part of any formal reviews and while the Climate Action Plan is not yet completed.

There was a question if it were necessary to note the committee had not been asked to review any plans and if it were relevant to include that statement or imply the committee had done so when they had not. Concern was voiced that this had been implied within an online FAQ.

Maria Zade questioned if once the plan is complete and the committee’s missions changes, it could actually be something that became part of the CAPC mission to review. Brad suggested this be discussed at the next meeting in regards to what happens once the plan is complete. A warrant article would be required to determine if the current committee (or another version of it) would work on the implementation.



The sentence “at this time” was therefore removed as not part of the group’s current mission.

Alyson Anderson made a motion to vote on the statement

Brad Moyer reiterated that the only statement of this committee is whatever is approved in its entirety.

Some further edits needed to be made to define “SBC” as the School Building Committee and to clarify that the new school may not be called Foster but referred to as the new proposed elementary school.

The motion was unanimously approved with the final statement as written:

RESOLVED, that the CAPC adopt the following statement with regard to the proposed new elementary school: Hingham's mission for the CAPC is to evaluate carbon-emission reduction strategies and propose measures to guide the Town and its many constituencies to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2040 or another date deemed feasible. We understand through the School Building Committee's (SBC) public process that the SBC has considered and promoted various options to incorporate carbon-reduction considerations in the proposed new elementary school design. We appreciate and applaud the efforts of the SBC to contribute toward Hingham's net zero carbon emissions goals, and we strongly encourage the SBC and the Town to continue to incorporate carbon-reduction considerations in its designs and processes.

We note that the SBC has not asked the CAPC to evaluate its proposed carbon-reduction measures for the design of the proposed new elementary school and we have not done so. It is not our mission to pass judgment on whether the efforts of the SBC or any other Town body are aligned with the CAPC's mission of proposing carbon-reduction strategies, particularly when we have not yet finished our work and formally adopted a plan.

Other business brought before the Committee:

Alyson Anderson reminded everyone of the Town Meeting on Nov. 1.

Next Meeting Agenda Topics & Date:

Next meeting was tentatively scheduled for Nov. 10th. A poll will be sent to the committee to finalize the best date and time.

A public engagement session is slated for the week of Dec. 5th.

Cleaner Greener Hingham requested to discuss the potential plastic bottle ban at the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 7:19pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Alyson Anderson