

Green Marblehead Implementation Committee
Meeting Minutes
July 11, 2024

Members Present: Thatcher Kezer (Chair), Elaine Leahy, Andrew Petty, Lisa Wolf, Joseph Kowalik, Eileen Mathieu

Municipal Staff: Logan Casey

Meeting called to order 3:36pm

Net Zero Updates: Logan Casey reviewed updates on many projects:

1) Comprehensive Bicycle Plan:

- Have formed a steering committee consisting of reps from TSAC, municipal staff, and Complete Streets Committee.
- Efforts to involve public so far and scheduled:
 - Tabling at Marblehead Festival of the Arts reached 150 people.
 - Online Survey available on Town website
 - July 20 Farmers Market tabling
 - July 30 Public Workshop at Abbot Hall 7-830
 - Stakeholder engagement meetings including business, schools, municipal officials, community, neighborhoods, some already held, some planned.

These meetings are posted on Town Planner Dept web page, on left. Then the plan will begin to make estimates of capital funding needed.

2) Navigating Nexus of Historic Preservation and Green Energy:

Scope of work has been defined. Plan the following steps:

- Three meetings between Green Marblehead Implementation Committee (GMIC) and Old and Historic Districts Commission (OHDC)
- Site tours
- Charrettes: public workshops including residents and stakeholders

Final deliverable: Clean Energy Integration Guidelines for Historic Properties.

- Town Staff to work with OHDC to adopt these guidelines.

Thatcher clarified that the project has no authority on its own to make changes in OHDC guidelines, but OHDC and Select Board will need to decide what parts of report to adopt as guidelines.

Specifically, there is a site tour planned July 24, 10-3, which will include walking around Marblehead Historic districts and going to Salem to look at their historic district and meeting with Salem staff.

Two people from GMIC and two from OHDC are encouraged to participate, and members of the public are encouraged to attend. It will be facilitated by Lindsay Randall from MAPC.

- 3) FY'25 Mass Trails Grant awarded for portion of rail trail between Pleasant and Smith streets.
 - \$60,000 was received.
 - Plan is the Town Engineer will do the planning inhouse.
 - Grant money will be spent on the actual work of improving the trail segment.
- 4) FY'25 Coastal Resiliency Grant Application due July 19
 - Harbor Center Project: Area of work: State St Landing/Harbormaster's Office.
 - Working with Salem Sound Coastwatch and consultants from Woods Hole and others.
 - Letters of support from Select Board and Harbor and Waters Board have been obtained.
 - Improvements at these two locations are part of the Harbor Plan.
 - Shipyards area: planned improvements in seawalls etc., will be applying for different funds as the planning has been done.
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- 5) Green Communities Designation effort:
 - Logan is working on getting Marblehead's data for municipal building energy use entered into the state database.
 - Elaine mentioned that there are Mass CEC interns available for Fall and Spring Semesters. The hiring organization pays the Intern, then Mass CEC reimburses the organization. She suggested that Logan could possibly take advantage of that to help with the application for Green Communities designation. He will look into it.

Project Updates:

- Joe Kowalik reported that the "GRIP grant" from DOE (federal) is still in limbo.
- Logan said that Marblehead received a \$2,000 grant to help with planning and siting electric vehicle charging stations.
- Joe mentioned that coordinating information which shows overlays of public parking lots in town with high voltage lines and proximity to residential customers who do not have off street parking is needed to help plan siting for EV charging.
- Logan was asked about the timeline for the rail trail improvements, and he estimated project 1-2 years. There was a request for an update on the Electric School Bus situation, but other than the fact that Joe Kowalik had sent a letter of support from MMLD, none was available. Eileen will look into it and report back.

Public Comment: none

Meeting adjourned at 4:18pm by roll call vote. Elaine Leahy-Yes, Andrew Petty-Yes, Lisa Wolf-Yes, Joseph Kowalik-Yes, Eileen Mathieu-Yes, Thatcher Kezer-Yes

Respectfully submitted by Eileen Mathieu