

Green Marblehead Implementation Committee
Meeting Minutes
October 9, 2025

1. Call to Order

The meeting of the Green Marblehead Implementation Committee (GMIC) was called to order at **3:31 PM** by Chair **Thatcher Kezer**.

2. Attendance

Members Present:

- Thatcher Kezer, Chair
- Brendan Callahan
- Lisa Wolf
- Eileen Mathieu
- Andrew Petty
- Michael Hall (MMLD)

Others Present:

- Logan Casey, Sustainability Coordinator

3. Approval of Minutes

The Committee reviewed prior meeting minutes.

- **March 13, 2025** – Minutes presented for approval.
- **September 11, 2025** – Minutes presented for approval.

Motion: To approve the minutes of **March 13, 2025**, and **September 11, 2025**, as presented.

Vote: Approved by unanimous vote.

Still Pending: Minutes from **May 2025**, and **July 2025**, remain outstanding.

4. Community Development Department Representation on GMIC

Chair Kezer led a discussion regarding representation from the Community Development Department on the Committee.

- Thatcher suggested that **Town Planner, Alex Eitler**, who currently serves on many other boards, be replaced on GMIC by **Community Development and Planning Director**,

Brendan Callahan, to better align GMIC membership with departmental leadership responsibilities.

Motion: To appoint **Brendan Callahan** to the Green Marblehead Implementation Committee to fill the seat previously held by **Alex Eitler**.

Vote: Approved by **unanimous vote**.

5. Municipal EV Charging Plan Updates

Logan Casey provided an update on the municipal EV charging plan:

- Initial efforts are focused on installing EV chargers at:
 - **Brown School** – Two chargers dedicated to the municipal fleet and one charger available for public use.
 - **Park on Elm** – One charger available for public use.
- Staff are working on submitting **two EVIP grants** to support this work.

Michael Hall (MMLD) reported:

- Contractors are being evaluated to support the EV charging installations.
- **Voltrex** will be visiting soon, and another company has already provided estimates.

Committee discussion included:

- Whether MMLD intends to recover costs versus providing increased charging capacity as the Town fleet becomes more electrified.
- MMLD's current intention is to **shoulder all EV charging development and operating costs**, including hardware, software selection, and related expenses.
- Current charger usage was reported to be approximately **40%**.

6. Green Communities Update

Logan Casey provided an update on the Town's Green Communities efforts:

- **ZEV First Policy** has been **adopted**.
- The **Energy Reduction Plan** is expected to be completed by **mid-October**, after which it will be presented to the **Select Board** for their review and then brought back for formal adoption.
- **Renewable Energy Charge:**
 - Discussions with the Select Board are ongoing.
 - The goal is for the Select Board to send a letter to **MMLB** encouraging adoption of a Renewable Energy Charge so that Marblehead may qualify as a **Green Community (GC)**.
- Logan reported that **DOER** may allow Marblehead to apply for **Green Community designation** by the **December 30, 2025**, deadline on a **conditional basis**, contingent upon Marblehead achieving **MBTA 3A compliance** in the spring of **2026**.

- Logan is hopeful that **MMLB** will adopt the Renewable Energy Charge on a **conditional basis**, pending the Town's 3A compliance.

7. Project Updates

a. State Street Restrooms

- Volunteers are being sought to monitor the **State Street Restrooms** so that they can be opened **24/7**.
- Concerns include:
 - Preventing damage to the facilities.
 - Ensuring doors are closed properly to avoid issues such as **frozen pipes**.

b. Council on Aging (COA) Electric Van Pilot Program

- The **COA electric van** is scheduled to arrive on **November 3, 2025**.
- There will be **publicity** around the launch of this pilot program next month.

c. Mass Fleet Advisor Program

- The Town is participating in the **Mass Fleet Advisor** program to support municipal fleet electrification.
- Progress to date includes:
 - Completion of a **municipal vehicle inventory** and entry of **fuel usage data**.
 - A forthcoming site visit to evaluate **municipal garages**.
 - Installation of **tracking devices** on selected municipal vehicles to better understand mileage and usage patterns.

8. Public Comment

- **Public Comment:** None.

9. Committee Issues – Sustainable Heritage Grant

Eileen Mathieu raised a request to discuss next steps regarding the **Sustainable Heritage Grant** recommendations.

- Chair Kezer noted that the item was **not listed on the agenda**, so no motions or votes could be taken at this meeting in accordance with open meeting requirements.
- A **general discussion** was held, and Eileen agreed to ask **Logan Casey** to place the item on the **November GMIC agenda**.

Key points from the discussion:

- Eileen would like GMIC to consider a **motion** at a future meeting to **endorse the guidelines** prepared by **MAPC**, which are based on state and national standards, and

to **formally urge** the Select Board to encourage the **Old and Historic Districts Commission (OHDC)** to adopt them as new OHDC guidelines.

- Thatcher stated that the next appropriate step would be to present the guidelines to the **Select Board**, and for the Board to state that they **encourage OHDC to implement the guidelines**. He noted that OHDC retains the authority to adopt or not adopt them.
- Eileen observed that, if the Select Board strongly urged OHDC to adopt the guidelines, those standards could:
 - Provide a **clear basis** on which to evaluate OHDC's performance, and
 - Potentially inform decisions about **OHDC membership**, if decisions are not made in accordance with the adopted guidelines.

Further discussion is expected if the item is placed on the **November GMIC agenda**.

10. Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn the meeting.

Vote: Approved by unanimous vote.

The meeting was adjourned at **4:29 PM**.

Respectfully submitted,

Eileen Mathieu

Date: October 9, 2025

Approved: December 11, 2025