



## Meeting Minutes

April 22, 2020 – 6:30pm

Remote Participation

**In Attendance:** John Hayes, Jeff Cohen, Doug Bowker, Rick Nye, Meg Riccardi (Council Liaison), Esmeralda Bisono (City staff), Jenna Ide (City staff)

**Not in Attendance:** Phil Koch, Chris Cantone, Gail Kubik

**Public:** Kendra Bowker (Citizens Climate Lobby), Katie Farrell (Citizens Climate Lobby), Nathan Young (City's Sustainability Intern), Pat Gozemba, Carolyn Z, Pat Reed, Salem Access TV, Tyler Terry

## Introductions

### Public Comment

- Pat Gozemba (Salem Alliance for the Environment "SAFE" Co-Chair)
  - Pat sent an email to John Hayes on the issue of banning gas leaks. There is a large number of SAFE members who are interested in this topic and they are currently discussing a draft on a gas leak ban ordinance with Councilor Dibble.
  - Pat discusses a program called Rocky Mountain Institute which provides the City an opportunity to participate in a workshop regarding eliminating fossil fuels in new buildings and moving towards full building electrification.
  - Pat is asking for a show of hands with interest from SERC in case there is an opportunity for Salem to be involved in the program.
    - John Hayes – Communities in MA are waiting for a resolution on this. We can be ready to hit the ground running.
    - Jeff Cohen – We will send the email to the committee and if anyone wants to participate, they're more than welcome to.
    - John Hayes – our committee should really think about the pros/cons with any initiatives and projects that we recommend. We are an advisory



committee to the Mayor, so we should discuss all viewpoints. Let's discuss more at the next SERC meeting.

### **En-Roads Presentation by Kendra Bowker and Katie Farrell of CCL NS (Citizens Climate Lobby, North Shore Chapter)**

- Try out the En-ROADS tool here: <https://www.climateinteractive.org/tools/en-roads/>
- Jeff Cohen – The value of En-ROADS is that some categories have a dramatic effect while others have smaller effects. It's very interesting to view. If we electrify everything, we can fuel it through renewable energy.
- Doug Bowker – We need a system to measure carbon footprint of certain behaviors.
- John Hayes – It would be great to have a system like this for the U.S. government and looks at all of our policies and how much it is helping.
  - Katie Farrell – C-ROADS is a predecessor to En-ROADS; there are talks about having a system like this for different countries around the world.
- Jenna Ide – We should all be looking for different tools like En-ROADS to figure out emissions/climate change data. Engagement and outreach tools as well. We need to think outside the box for ways to engage people.
  - Pat Gozemba – Project Drawdown is a different template looking at different solutions to climate change and environmental/social issues.
- The full presentation can be viewed at the salem.com SERC webpage located at [www.salem.com/sustainability-energy-and-resiliency-committee-serc](http://www.salem.com/sustainability-energy-and-resiliency-committee-serc)

### **Review & Approve Meeting Minutes**

- Jeff Cohen motioned to approve the minutes with edits. Rick Nye seconded.
  - Vote passes unanimously.

### **Discussion on Ordinances**

- John Hayes, Jeff Cohen, and Nathan Young (the city's sustainability intern) met online to discuss drafting a few ordinances to bring to the City Council.
- Jeff Cohen – Nathan has done a very fantastic job so far in assisting us with research necessary to draft these ordinances. We've had other help as well: Stan Franzen sent a sample of an ordinance that incorporates SERC to be part of legal processes in the City when it comes to sustainability, resiliency, and energy policies.
  - The ordinance is going to be comprehensive - strengthens minimum standards on solar, etc., if no solar then a green roof.
- There will be more discussion at the next SERC meeting.

### **Project Updates**



- **Solarize Mass Plus**
  - Details on the program and the extension can be found here: <https://www.salem.com/home/news/clean-energy-program-extended-help-salem-residents-save-money> and on the Solarize North Shore website here: [www.solarizenorthshore.org](http://www.solarizenorthshore.org)
  - The program ends on Sunday, May 31, 2020, which is the last day Salem home and business owners must sign contracts with the installers. You then have 1 year after contract signing to have the technology installed for the 20-25% discount from market rate.
  - Upcoming Webinars
    - Wednesday, May 6, 2020 at 11:30 AM - 12:15 PM
      - Installer: Boston Solar
      - Host: Esmeralda Bisonso
    - Thursday, May 14, 2020 at 2:00 PM - 2:45 PM
      - Installer: New England Ductless
      - Host: Ryan Hale
    - Monday, May 18, 2020 at 7:00 P.M. - 7:45 P.M.
      - Installer: New England Solar Hot Water
      - Host: Ellen Goldberg
  - COVID-19 Update – installers are doing free “virtual” visits
  
- **Beverly & Salem Climate Action Plan**
  - The Cities of Beverly and Salem jointly went out to seek proposals from consultants for a Climate Change Action Plan. This plan will look at City wide (not just owned) emissions and come up with a plan for reduction/mitigation. We will also discuss other sustainability issues such as waste, water, and food.
  - Jenna Ide – Beverly got a grant for the Climate Change Action Plan and Salem is applying for one. We got six proposals from the RFP. We have a committee that will be reviewing these through a combination of qualification and price. The process of choosing ends in May and we will begin working on the plan starting in June/July (next fiscal year).
  - The plan will help us review our current state/emissions then we can decide our goals moving forward.

## **New Business**

- The City of Salem is applying for the MA Department of Energy Resources (DOER) Green Communities grant; the application is due on May 1, 2020. We are applying for the following items:
  - Two Salem Police vehicle replacements to Hybrid Police vehicles.



- Kitchen appliance replacements to Energy Star Rated appliances at the Salem Police Station, Horace Mann Laboratory School, and Witchcraft Heights Elementary School.
- Two electric vehicle charging stations – one at Forest river park and one at Blaney Street Parking Lot (this is part of a larger project to bring over ten EV charging stations to the City).
- Building Operator Certification (BOC) training for City buildings and School department facility managers.

## Upcoming Events

- **A Museum of Science Webinar: “Town Hall: Climate Change in Boston”**
  - Thursday, April 23, 2020 at 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM EDT
  - Learn how climate change is affecting our engineered infrastructures, our ecosystems, and our social relationships. You'll also discover what Boston is doing to build resilience, and how you can share your experiences, observations, and climate change perspectives through community science. This town hall event will feature short presentations from experts in climate science, resilience planning, and community journalism, and then field your questions about climate change solutions.
  - Register online: [https://www.eventbrite.com/e/climate-change-in-boston-a-community-conversation-tickets-103153561078?utm\\_source=eventbrite&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=reminder\\_attendees\\_48hour\\_email&utm\\_term=eventname&ref=eemaileventremind](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/climate-change-in-boston-a-community-conversation-tickets-103153561078?utm_source=eventbrite&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=reminder_attendees_48hour_email&utm_term=eventname&ref=eemaileventremind)

**Next Meeting – May 27, 2020 at 6:30 P.M. via Zoom**

## Adjournment

- Jeff Cohen motioned to adjourn the meeting. Rick Nye seconded.
  - Vote passes unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:56 PM. Minutes respectfully submitted by Esmeralda Bisono.

