

City of Biddeford Climate Change Task Force

July 11, 2022 6:30 PM on Zoom

1. Member Attendance

Steve, Brad, Beverly, Junelle, Max, Bill, Jake

2. Guest Recognition and Presentations: No guests scheduled

None

3. Approve Minutes

4. Additions & Amendments?

5. Old Business

2nd round of community grants has started from GOPIF.

Max mentioned that the Town of Falmouth is applying as a single community rather than a cohort. Would Biddeford want to apply for additional funding?

Steve indicated that he would be inclined to pass, to preserve funding for communities that have not yet received any.

5.1. Subcommittee Report-outs

1) 2022 Budget/Strategic Planning (Team: Brad, Meaghan, Steve)

a) Operating budget request for \$6,000 to submit for council approval (Brad)

The original budget request of \$75,000 was approved at \$64,000, if additional funding is needed for operating, not covered by SMPDC project, perhaps that is something that the council could approve.

There is interest to request a reallocation for the task force to move funds from the CAP to support for interns and increase communications and outreach.

Bill feels that a request for reallocation would be supported, given the funding from SMPDC.

b) Service agreement for SMPDC Cohort cost by July 17

The service agreement is in hand, total is \$25,185.

Brad will review, and then send a copy around to the committee. It will be due to SMPDC in a few weeks.

2) Community Outreach/Social Media (Team: Tim, Beverly, Max)

a) First public access spot release? (Brad)

Currently the release date is still unknown.

b) Outreach events, La Kermesse, Music in the Park, etc. (Tim to update)

Music in the park, Task Force is cohosting with heart of Biddeford. Food from Quero Café, some other items to draw people. Library offered to make a climate trivia activity and offered to help host the table. Steve, Max, Tim, Meaghan, and Brad will be in attendance.

No capacity to participate in La Kermesse this year.

Beverly mentioned that Max has been doing a really great job pulling together the events.

Junelle asked for rack cards to put out at events that she is attending. Junelle will let the committee know of additional events that are upcoming.

There will be 4 local (in Biddeford) events coordinated by SMPDC working with the Task force.

There are 35 followers on the Facebook page. Instagram has more followers.

PAC training for communication will be coming. Would this be a topic for the training?

Ask for a plug for the Facebook page on the Biddeford Beat page.

Julia Cantor (intern GMRI) contacted Steve looking for information about the Task Force.

5.2. Regional CAP Cohort

1) Meaghan is serving on consultant selection committee (update?)

Fourth Economy has been selected to be the consulting firm for the cohort.

2) Climate Ready Coast Workgroup Meeting, June 28 update (Brad, Meaghan)

Brad attended as participant, and Jake as a presenter. There will be a help session on 7/12. Workgroup members have been asked for feedback by July 15.

5.3. Carried as open items (no current activity)

1) ICLEI Race to Zero and City Endorsement to be presented to Council this summer

No date set for that yet. Brad is planning to go before the council with the appropriations first.

2) City solar regulations, review and recommendation for amendment (TBD)

No updates

5.4. Communities Leading on Climate Change (Augusta Civic Center, June 17)

1) Discussion from live event attendees (Steve, Brad)

Encouraging communities to engage on climate planning.

Brian Ambrette (GOPIF) would like to meet with the Climate Task Force to find out what we are doing now, and what we would like to be doing in the future. Brad will send around a poll to schedule a meeting.

2) General discussion (all)

5.5. City Emails for members

1) Issues resolved?

Some issues are lingering. Issues are related to expiring Microsoft licenses and city staff are working on it.

5.6. Rack Cards

1) Draft for review?

Steve requested that future public information that is distributed should be reviewed by the committee chair first.

6. New Business

6.1. Capstone Project Proposal

1) Project description (Beverly)

Beverly is attending the Maine Master Naturalist course. Capstone project will be to develop a nature walk at Laurel Hill Cemetery on trees and carbon sequestration. July 21st at 1:00pm, and July 23rd at 9:00am. Beverly will get the information to Tim for the Facebook page.

6.2. Membership Page

1) New member proposed by Max update? (Rachel Smart, recent BHS graduate)

Rachel is no longer interested.

6.3 Other Discussion

Biddeford, Saco, and OOB just took possession of one electric bus, and there is another on the way for the fall. There is a new recharging station at the train station.

Maine Water opening coming this fall. MWC is also looking into a solar facility. Steve is happy to share any questions or concerns that people have with Maine Water.