

**GREEN ADVISORY BOARD**  
**MEETING MINUTES – December 12th, 2022**  
6:00pm  
\*Hybrid Meeting\*

GAB Members Attending In-person: Mary Smith, Cameren Cousins

GAB Members Attending Virtually: Dennis Loria, Eric Hudson

Other Virtual Attendees: Jim Snyder-Grant (Acton Select Board liaison), Patrick Ronai (Climate Partner), Michael Chautin (Acton Council on Aging representative), Terra Freidrichs

6:04 – Mary Smith called the meeting to order. Mary read hybrid meeting protocol (Zoom and in-person, Room 9, Town Hall) and notified attendees of the recorded meeting.

- 1) Carbon Offsets Discussion, led by guest Patrick Ronai (Climate Partner).
  - a. Patrick compliments us on our CAP – admirable and detailed work for a municipality.
  - b. Climate Partners slide deck is attached to these meeting minutes.
  - c. Discussion points: Challenges with siting of carbon offset projects, can limit options for financially feasible projects. Problem of greenwashing (via carbon offsets) by many companies; perhaps additionality is the key to making purchasing carbon offsets more honest. Annual carbon accounting recommended to quantities and financial commitments up-to-date; each carbon offset company tends to have their own proprietary accounting and benchmarking platform (on-line). There is a distinction between net zero (the long-term goal) and carbon neutrality (which you can have today via offsets). Any innovation around community aggregation of desire to offset carbon? The prices could be lower by purchasing in volume. A note on how it works: purchasing offsets from a 3<sup>rd</sup> party broker, who will profit from that transaction.
- 2) Resident concerns
  - a. Terra Friedrichs: Questions on cost of offsetting - for offsetting the entire community's footprint and/or the municipal/school footprint. Cost would be based on carbon accounting numbers and market rate for tons of CO2 offset; types of offset projects will dictate market rate.
  - b. Mary will follow up with Corey York about the email GAB received regarding exterior lights on Senior Center.
- 3) Specialized Stretch Code and Fossil Fuel Infrastructure Ban Pilot Program
  - a. Update: DOER considering rolling the fossil fuel infrastructure ban into specialized building stretch code. They have until June to release regulations, but DOER wants to get them out in the next few weeks.
  - b. Timing: Seems like we have time to understand the landscape better before GAB needs to take action on recommendations or articles for spring Town Meeting.


7:11 - Dennis Loria makes a motion to close the meeting. Eric Hudson seconds. All in favor.

**ClimatePartner**

## Climate Action

Action GAB, December 2022

Climate contribution through offsetting your carbon emissions



We guide businesses across all sectors on their climate journey

Except from over 5,000+ corporate customers

Consumer Goods	Retail	Financial Services	Energy	Media	Industrial Goods
					

ClimatePartner – Your partner for climate action

<b>EXPERTISE</b>	15+ years   700+ experts worldwide   5,000+ corporate clients
<b>ONE STOP SOLUTION</b>	Support throughout the entire <b>climate action journey</b>
<b>SCALABLE TECH</b>	State of the art <b>software</b> to leverage automation and efficiency
<b>REDUCTION</b>	<b>SBTi</b> , <b>Green Energy</b> , <b>Network Platform</b> , <b>School of Sustainability</b> etc.
<b>OFFSET</b>	Development of certified high-quality projects to offset unabated emissions
<b>LABEL</b>	Most transparent and internationally widespread carbon neutral label

A case study of Basel, Switzerland

Climate Action Strategy

- Measuring the carbon footprint**
  - Based on 2019 CO<sub>2</sub> emissions
  - SBTi**
- Setting Targets**
  - Net Zero by 2050 at latest
- Develop a climate action strategy**
  - Workshops with municipally members Jan-Oct 22
  - Define climate action initiatives**
    - Reduce food waste
    - Vegan menu options in public institutions
    - Switch vehicle fleet to E-cars
    - Switch to renewable energy
    - Carbon neutral heating tower
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### A case study of municipality Steinmauern, Germany Carbon neutral town hall



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Citizens of Action can measure their personal carbon footprint  
ClimatePartner YOU

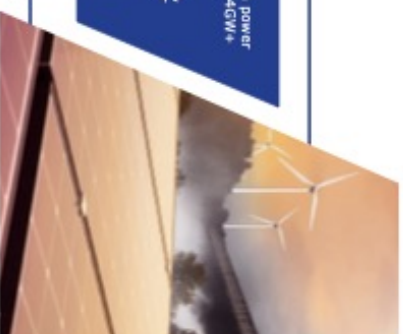


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### A case study in Massachusetts Renewable energy

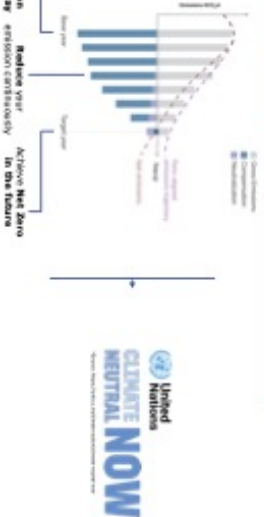
- Carbon footprint of 30 sites for clean power and energy storage covering their 1.4GW+ asset portfolio
- Office space, pumped-hydro storage, battery storage, and run-of-river hydroelectric generators
- Support ESG report



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A comprehensive climate action strategy consists of measuring, reducing, and offsetting  
Source: [sciencebasedtargets.org](https://sciencebasedtargets.org)



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## Carbon offset projects enable additional carbon savings and are improving lives

### Overview of certified technologies



## Criteria for carbon offset projects

- 1** **Additionality**
  - Dependence on additional financial support
- 2** **Exclusion of double counting**
  - Each tonne of carbon avoided or removed is accounted once only
- 3** **Permanence**
  - Avoidance or removal must be guaranteed long term
- 4** **Audit by independent third parties**
  - Compliance with international standards and calculation of the actual carbon savings

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## Carbon offset projects enable carbon neutrality and promote sustainability goals



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## Our interactive ClimateMap showcases some of our carbon offset projects

[www.climate-partner.com](http://www.climate-partner.com)



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### 3 possible offset projects

[www.climatepartner.com/1054](http://www.climatepartner.com/1054)

Project	Technology	Project Location
Project 1	Project 1	Project 1
Project 2	Project 2	Project 2
Project 3	Project 3	Project 3



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### Registration is free – you are welcome to share the link internally

[www.climatepartner.com/academy](http://www.climatepartner.com/academy)

#### ClimatePartner Deep Dives

- Languages: EN, GER, FR, NL, IT, SE, ES
- Duration: each 50 minutes

#### Topics

- Product Carbon Footprint
- Industry specific Deep Dives
- Supply Chain Solutions
- Science Based Targets und Net Zero
- Integration Solutions
- Green Energy Solutions
- Carbon Offset Projects

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