

GREEN ADVISORY BOARD
OCTOBER 7, 2013
MINUTES

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DEC - 2 2013

TOWN CLERK
ACTON

ACTON MEMORIAL LIBRARY
486 MAIN STREET - CONFERENCE ROOM
6:30 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT: Eric Hudson, Dennis Loria, Mary Smith, Bruce Friedman, David Keene

SELECTMEN LIAISON: John Sonner

ENERGY CONSERVATION ANALYST: Pamela Cady

GREEN ADVISOR TO THE SCHOOLS: Kate Crosby

RECORDING SECRETARY: Andrea Ristine

VISITOR: Renato Nakagomi

6:38 Mr. Friedman called the meeting to order.

Minutes

Mr. Hudson moved to approve the minutes of September 9, 2013, Ms. Smith 2nd; unanimous.

Behavior Modification and Five-year Update Letter to the Selectmen

Members of the Board reviewed the draft letter to be submitted to the Board of Selectmen (BoS), noting some minor edits were still preferred prior to submitting.

7:01 Mr. Keene arrived.

Members wished to clarify what it is that the Green Advisory Board (GAB) wants the BoS and the Town Manager to implement. Mr. Sonner stated that he will present the proposal later on this evening at the BoS meeting in hopes to be scheduled on their October 21 agenda. He suggested that the GAB develop a more detailed energy efficient behavior modification program by October 21. Mr. Sonner suggested that a GAB member, Mr. Charter and Ms. Crosby make a brief overview presentation to the BoS.

Mr. Loria moved to approve the letter as edited during this meeting for submission to the BoS, Ms. Smith 2nd; unanimous.

FY'15 Green Revolving Fund

Upon query by the Board Ms. Ristine reported that the department head Budget Session ranked and voted the Green Revolving Fund on the "A" list of capital requests, although not voted as a one of the highest priorities by all department heads. It was noted that there was 4.4 million dollars in capital requests, 3.6 million made the "A list". Ultimately capital project recommendations presented to the BoS will be determined by the Town Manager.

General Discussion

Ideas and comments from staff and Board regarding energy conservation measures, including anti-idling measures for vehicles: Ms. Cady noted that initiating an anti-idling policy could make a

considerable change in vehicle fuel consumption which is a significant portion of fuel consumption for the Town. Approximately 40% of energy consumption for the Town is vehicle fuel; fuel consumption in the Schools is 10% of their energy usage.

Mr. Nakagomi stated that he will report at a later date to GAB with further details of a sensor device that can automatically turn a vehicle off if idling too long (programmed set time); the device senses both idle and movement, programmed times are adjustable. The price is approximately \$2,400 for 10 devices based on information he found from the Toronto Police Department. Vancouver is trying to address the same issue for diesel motor requirements.

Ms. Crosby noted that there is another device that can monitor a vehicle's battery storage charge and can start a car if battery charge drops too low, which would be beneficial for on duty police cruisers.

Mr. Keene noted that Illinois as a "green fleet" where one gallon diesel fuel is used per hour of idling.

Bumper stickers on town vehicles noting a five minute idle time policy would make employees more aware knowing the sticker is on their car that is seen by the public, and in turn would be made aware that the Town is trying to reduce fuel consumption and green house gases.

Ms. Crosby stated that the GAB might consider approaching the police and fire chiefs individually prior to trying to initiate the vehicle idle policy for the Town as a whole.

Ms. Crosby reported that the school buses do have the five minute idle regulator; although it is adjusted during colder winter months since they are diesel motors.

Mr. Keene reported that he has a relative who is a transportation specialist in Washington DC at the Center for Climate and Energy Solutions; he will pursue further information & report back to the Board.

Mr. Hudson volunteered to be the board member to attend the BoS presentation with Mr. Charter and Mr. Sonner.

Ms. Crosby noted that Discover STEM 2013 will be held on November 4th at the high school cafeteria; it is a showcase of interactive Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math activities geared for students in grades 7 through 12 plus adults.

Ideas for ribbon cutting ceremony solar landfill site: in the absence of Mr. Charter, these topics were deferred to the next scheduled meeting.

Meeting Agenda - November 18

- Approve 9/30 and 10/7 minutes
- Letter to the Selectmen regarding Behavior Modification and Five-year Update
- FY15 Green Revolving Fund
- Ribbon Cutting update
- Behavioral change program

7:50 Mr. Keene moved to adjourn, Mr. Friedman 2nd; unanimous.

**David Keene,
Chair**


Bruce Friedman
Vice Chair

shs GAB minutes 10-07-2013



**GREEN ADVISORY BOARD
OCTOBER 7, 2013
AGENDA**

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1. Minutes September 9, 2013 - Approval & Signature
2. Review & Vote Final Draft Letter to the Selectmen regarding Behavior Modification and Five-year Update (*approved by DK*)
3. FY15 Green Revolving Fund
4. General Discussion:
 - Ideas and comments from staff and Board regarding energy conservation measures, including anti-idling measures for vehicles
 - Ideas for ribbon cutting ceremony Solar Landfill Site
5. Set Next Meeting Agenda Items

NEXT MEETING: November 18