

Harwich Energy and Climate Action Committee Minutes

Tuesday, September 30, 2025

Small Meeting Room, Harwich Town Hall

Present: Valerie Bell	Chairperson
Jacqueline Pentz-Greene	Vice-Chairperson
Charlie Czech	Member, Secretary

Deborah Ennis	HCAN
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Copy: Mark Kelleher	Select Board Liaison
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- Meeting begun at 3:00 PM
- Deborah Ennis, HCAN present
- June minutes as revised, approved.
- It is not easy to find copies of past committee meeting minutes on the Harwich Town Website. The steps required are repeated here for future reference:
 - Visit this URL: <https://www.harwich-ma.gov/159/Agendas-Minutes>
 - Under event categories select Harwich Energy and Climate Action Committee
 - Under calendar select to and from date(s) you are looking for
 - If desired, search on content
 - Click on minutes on date(s) you are looking for
- Climate Leader Status: Both Val and Jacqueline will meet with the new Acting Town Administrator, Tony Shiavi, independently to educate him as to what we are trying to accomplish with this program. Without federal input the financial incentives may be lessened. They plan is to show the Truro roadmap to the acting town administrator.
- The Charter Review Commission has been meeting with each town committee to get input:
 - We need a Harwich Climate Action Plan in reference to the Cape Cod Commission Climate Action Report
 - For example, using the Tighe & Bond Consultants to raise roads and increase culvert size
 - We need to take a lead through the lens of climate to move forward on staff to implement Climate Action who can pursue the ideas spelled out in the Cape Cod Commission with better communication to all Harwich Departments.
 - Town Departments could investigate acquiring machines (EV vehicles) and retro fitting buildings.
 - We also need to emphasize the positive such as what we already accomplished with regard to PV solar panels in recycling center and building upgrades already accomplished under Green Communities

- Maggie Downey is retiring from Cape Light Compact and a search committee is looking for a replacement.
- Look at Thursday, Oct 16 @ 3:00 Pm for next meeting
- Meeting adjourned @ 3:50 PM