

Harwich Energy and Climate Action Committee

Wednesday, June 25, 2025

Small Meeting Room, Harwich Town Hall

Present: Valerie Bell	Chairperson
Jacqueline Pentz-Greene	Vice-Chairperson
Charlie Czech	Member, Secretary
Absent: Glenn Miemec	Member, CVEC Representative
Copy: Don Howell	Select Board Liaison

- Meeting begun at 3:00 PM
- No members of the public were present
- April minutes were approved
- It was announced that Glenn Miemec, CVEC Representative has resigned due to health reasons. The Select Board needs to advertise in the community that our committee is understaffed and requires new members to meet the objectives defined by the board for our committee.
- It was also announced that Don Howell, Select Board Liaison is now the chairman of the Select Board and will no longer be our liaison. The Select Board needs to appoint a new liaison for our committee.
- On Monday, June 30, 2025 Val will make another presentation to the Select Board reminding them of the commitment they made regarding voting on whether Harwich Select Board will decide to enter the state sponsored Climate Leader Program. Valerie will be assisted by Lisa Sullivan from state DOER via zoom. Lisa is the Green Communities support coordinator for the southeast region and will help answer the Select Board's questions regarding the Climate Leader Program. Committee members are invited to attend to support Valerie.
- A contract extension with Tighe and Bond the consulting firm working with the town on the update of the comprehensive plan was approved by the Select Board last Monday. After the Select Board approves the updated comprehensive plan it will need to be approved at a special town meeting in the fall or next spring.
- Jacqueline asked if there is a complete energy usage spreadsheet showing how much energy was being used by all town buildings and vehicles at the start of the Green Communities and up to the present date. It was suggested that Sean Libby or Cape Light Compact might have this information. The purpose of this question is to identify areas that could use improvement and/or changes. Only by knowing more about our municipality energy scenario, the town can address its needs.
- Maggie Downey Cape Light Compact administrator is retiring in June 2026 and the board chair for Cape Light Compact quit. It will be hard to replace Maggie.
- The state (MA) is looking at rates for electricity delivery since they are very high.
- Next meeting is planned for July 23, 2025 and there will not be any August meeting
- Meeting adjourned 3:45 PM