

Yarmouth Climate Action Task Force (YCAT)

Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, July 19, 2023

6:00 – 7:30 pm, Community Room/GoToMeeting

Purpose

The Task Force will convene for one year to develop a Climate Action Plan for Town Council approval that is guided by Federal, State, and regional plans.

Agenda

Item	Agenda	Start Time
1	Call to Order: Approval of June 7, 2023 Minutes	6:00 PM
2	Presentation from GPCOG	6:05 PM
3	Chapter Outline Template Discussion	6:15 PM
4	Plan Element Visioning	6:30 PM
5	Plan Element Subgroup Next Steps	7:15 PM
6	Engagement Updates and Other Items	7:25 PM
7	Adjourn	7:30 PM

Minutes

- Presentation by GPCOG
 - Kelly from GPCOG presented the initial modeling scenario for emissions reductions, calculated by GPCOG. The presented modelling scenario was for 74% emissions reductions by 2030, however the group agreed on the value of remaining consistent with the Council approved targets of 80% by 2030. YCAT requested GPCOG complete updated modeling for achieving the approved goals.
 - GPCOG clarified the emissions calculated for transportation were made using a software that captures all vehicle movement within town boundaries. There was concern noted about omitting emissions from commuting out of Yarmouth, and GPCOG confirmed that neighboring communities are using the same methodology and thus commuting trips are captured within borders of each town visited. The group indicated the importance of clearly describing this methodology,

Materials

- * Meeting Agenda
- * Minutes, November 5, 2019

Committee Members

Present

- Chair, Megan Hellstedt
- Abigail Grunewald
- Anna Siegal
- Caroline Norden
- Nancy Martin
- Maya Faulstich
- Ian Voparil
- Mary Gallaudet
- Jen Waterman
- Jeff Bates
- Sally Slovenski
- Matt Gamache
- Rebecca Sentementes

Staff

Meddy Smith,
Sustainability Coordinator

Scott LaFlamme,
Economic Development Director

providing an example, and perhaps fitting it into the regional context. One member brought up a question about the feasibility of using annually reported VMT (during vehicle registration process) to get a better sense of resident transportation emissions.

- GPCOG also inquired about how to represent the School emissions. The Declaration includes the school system in the municipal targets, but the Town council has limited authority in school management to take action to achieve these targets. YCAT requested GPCOG aim to report the municipal and school emissions separately, but also include a combined emissions dataset to show the baseline for the approved targets.

- **Chapter Outline Template Discussion**

- The Task Force discussed the rough outline for the Climate Action Plan chapters to confirm and refine the structure. Several changes were suggested, including adding a short plan process section in the introduction, including a timeline of historical sustainability actions, calling out relevant limitations for data analyses, hyperlinks to resident resources, including examples for residents and businesses to take action, and using design elements intentionally. The group clarified that equity needs to be included not only in the action prioritization process, but also represented in the content of the planning document – perhaps in callouts.

- **Plan Element Visioning**

- Due to time constraints, this item was not covered.

- **Plan Element Subgroup Next Steps**

- Due to time constraints, this item was not covered.

- **Engagement Updates and Other Items**

- Sally reminded the group of upcoming Clam Fest opportunities to participate in the parade and tabling.

The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 7:35pm.

Strategic Priorities & Outcomes / Next Steps

- YCAT subgroups to complete tasks as identified
- Meddy to send GPCOG draft template