

## Climate Change Resiliency Committee meeting minutes 8/16/2023, 5:00 pm

### 1910 Building, Town Offices, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Hearing Room and Zoom

Present: Mike Dacey, Elisa Grammer (via Zoom), Nancy Pau, Rick Parker, Liz Callahan, DPW Project Manager Christine Wallace (via Zoom).

#### Action Grant application status

##### Status Update

Ms. Wallace provided an update, noting that the good news was the West Newbury grant was awarded to study Merrimack flooding, but on conditions including requirements that it be completed by June 30, 2024 instead of 2025 and that we will need to provide estimates of volunteer hours. She and the Town Manager have been meeting virtually with Michelle Rowden, our MVP state representative about managing the new requirements, contracting, etc.

Ms. Wallace said that a Town-wide event/“summit,” tentatively set for October 5<sup>th</sup> is being planned to provide information and invite citizen participation with respect to major planning initiatives. This would include the MBTA Community initiative, the Route 113 corridor study, and the River Road and Environs MVP action grant. While still in planning, the idea is to highlight these projects with tables and information/handouts and short panel discussions about each project.

Ms. Wallace noted that she will need to submit the revised scope to Michelle Rowden by tomorrow and it is expected that the contracting will be completed on an expedited basis. She needed the CCRC’s help in estimating volunteer hours for the proposed scope of work.

##### CCRC volunteer work and hours

The CCRC went over Ms. Wallace’s draft revised scope of work, estimating its hours (and those for Town staff) for each task. Most of the CCRC’s contributions involve community outreach efforts—its own events and support for GRI/GMRI events. Ms. Grammer noted two activities that will need to be accomplished soon: 1) signage and messaging and 2) an email address to be used on the signs for community queries and feedback and to send out announcements/invitations about events and provide updates. *The Committee generally agreed that it will need to be involved in reviewing all messaging and communications to the public and a meeting was scheduled (ideally with the consultants present) on September 6 at 5 p.m. to develop agreement and processes for all to work together.*

Ms. Grammer noted that the CCRC will be sponsoring three events: the boat tour on the river with Yankee Clipper captain Paul Aziz (Nancy Pau as key CCRC person), a kayak tour (Rick Parker as key CCRC person), and River Road walking tour (Nancy Pau as key CCRC person). She said that while we need not decide on dates and plans for each event at this meeting, we should do so soon given the short timeframe for completing the grant. *Ms. Pau said that it may be best to have the river boat tour this year. She will check with Mr. Aziz about his schedule for the remaining parts of this year. She will also inquire about the boat’s capacity and using a closer embarkation and disembarkation point so that the tour can be shorter with more focus on the West Newbury shoreline. Mr. Dacey will see if the public dock at Groveland might be made available.*

##### Consultant Geoff Wilson

Ms. Pau asked if the Committee was still interested in seeking assistance from consultant Geoff Wilson. *It was agreed that he could be of assistance and Ms. Pau will reach out to him.*

#### Approval of Minutes

*The Committee unanimously approved the minutes of May 10, 2023, as amended.*

#### Other Business

### FY 2024 Committee Officers

*The Committee voted unanimously to retain Ms. Grammer as Chair and Clerk. It was noted that Ms. Callahan will have more time available to assist around the beginning of 2024, and Ms. Grammer welcomed that.*

### Questionnaire for Select Board

*The Committee reviewed the questions and draft answers to a survey sent by the Select Board. The revisions were shown on a shared Zoom screen and approved for send-out to the Select Board.*

### **Next meeting**

*September 6, 2023 5 p.m.*

### **Adjournment**

7:26 pm

### *Meeting materials*

Draft timeline and tasks

Draft CCRC hours tracking spreadsheet

Draft Select Board questionnaire

Redline Action Grant App B comparing state scope vs application scope