

## **Sustainability & Energy Commission / Community Energy Plan Steering Committee**

### **Minutes -- APPROVED**

June 11, 2024,

12 Noon

**Grand Haven, Michigan 49417**

**Grand Haven City Hall Council Chambers**

**519 Washington Street**

**Meeting called to order:** Chairperson Garry Post called the meeting to order at 12 Noon.

#### **Roll call:**

**Members Present:** Steve Negen, Garry Post, Ryan Cotton, Patti Nelsen, Erik Booth, Paul Cedarquist, Karen Sherwood, John Job, Ashley Latsch, Nancy O'Neill, Deanne Brink, and Craig Bessinger

**Members Absent:** David Mann, Will Montgomery, Mike Fritz, and Dr. Pietrangelo, John Job

**Consultants Present:** John Kinch, David Gard, Absent: Brittany Goode, Michael Larson.

**Call to Audience:** Mayor Monetza attended and had no comments.

**Amendments or Changes to the Agenda:** None.

**Approval of Agenda:** Motion was made by Ryan Cotton and Craig Bessinger. The agenda was approved.

**Approval of Minutes:** Motion was made by Patti Nelsen and Garry Post to approve the Minutes.

**Introduction of Claire and Contact Information:** Ryan Cotton introduced Claire DeBlanc who is a recent graduate of Central Michigan with a degree in Sustainability and Political Science. Ryan said she will be helping him on projects and Ryan suggested she could do a project for the Energy Plan group as well. Her contact email is [debla1cd@cmich.edu](mailto:debla1cd@cmich.edu).

**July and August Meetings:** Ashley Latsch and Garry Post suggested we cancel the July 9<sup>th</sup> Steering Committee and reconvene on in August on Thursday, August 8<sup>th</sup> at 6 PM with a Joint Meeting with the Sustainability and Energy Commission. Will Montgomery from Ferrysburg had asked that we try to schedule an evening meeting since not able to come to noon meetings. Karen Sherwood said she was fine with that also.

**Community Survey Overview Presentations:** John Kinch presented to Ferrysburg last week and Grand Haven Township last night and will go to the City of Grand Haven next in July. John mentioned he spoke in practical terms to both boards. Ferrysburg board brought up baseload concerns of loss of nuclear and intermittent sources only, the need to consider affordability and monthly bills, and consideration of overall R.O.I (return on investment). There were no comments from the GHT board members.

**Carbon Scenarios:** David Gard reported on “the community’s energy shed.” (A play on words with “watershed.”) What does it look like on the way to 2050? Everything from electricity, natural gas, urban forestry, and the rest of EPA -Default framework has been calculated. David added food production. Marine carbon pollution is unknown.?

In general, the three most impactful sources are stationery (buildings), mobile sources (on road transportation) and electric generation sector (85% of total). David referenced our My Healthy Climate Planning by laying out each of the following categories: building envelopes/insulation, etc., electrification & heat pumps (Garry asked if practical in this climate. Answer was yes, especially good insulation and with backup to keep your furnace and hold in reserve), rebate programs, old appliance recycling, vehicle miles traveled, transit, walkability, biking infrastructure, electrifying transportation, and lastly, renewable energy usage increases. Garry asked about pleasure boating/shipping industry? It can be added.

**Total GHG Emissions Table Explained:** Given the coal plant retirement, total carbon dropped from \$517 thousand metric tons to \$305 thousand tons. If the area adopts the best possible outcomes, the number will drop to 96 thousand metric tons by 2050 using the 85% cutoff noted in the above paragraph. This amounts to an 83% reduction since 2012 and 75% reduction since 2022. Garry Post and Ryan Cotton concurred that this was going in the right direction. This is akin to some of the better corporate leadership goals as well. **Ryan Cotton stressed that carbon tons/capita is needed in the next iteration.** 19.6 tons per person prior to coal plant and then dropped to 14 tons per capita in Holland, for example.

**Residential Energy Advisor Concept:** Paul Cedarquist mentioned that BLP already use Franklin Energy and asked if we wanted to meet with them regarding residential energy. Garry said yes and invited them to the August meeting. John said their typical scope of services could be modified to enable doing so and it was worthy of consideration.

**New Business / Other:** John is producing a Draft to review before the joint meeting in August will be provided. Garry Post asked for it a week before the meeting. **(Note: No draft received as of August 6<sup>th</sup>.)**

**Second Call to Audience:** None.

**Adjournment:** Chairperson Post made the motion to adjourn. thanked the group and the meeting adjourned at 1:20 PM.

***Note:*** *August Meeting Dates & Times: Thursday, August 8th at 6 PM as a joint meeting with the Sustainability and Energy Commission.*