

# Energy Use & Climate Change Commission

Monday, April 12, 2021 7pm

This meeting was held via Zoom. **Zoom recording available:**

[https://zoom.us/rec/share/12guwFO1-u43LE2D6kbvbW72rtRgQXF7zOT8kAELucFUrvLptoujTi\\_OG0nE5v4n.IMO0K3P3YUIGFy6x](https://zoom.us/rec/share/12guwFO1-u43LE2D6kbvbW72rtRgQXF7zOT8kAELucFUrvLptoujTi_OG0nE5v4n.IMO0K3P3YUIGFy6x) **Access Passcode:** Dy+e%453

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## Call to Order

Mr. Rosenthal called the meeting to order at 7:23pm.

## Commission Members

Lawrence Rosenthal – *Chair*

Brendan Smith- *Vice Chair*

David Cooper

Alison Demaio

Henry Dynia

Susan Kulis

Martin Mador

## Others in Attendance

Kathleen Schomaker – *Energy Efficiency Coordinator*

Bob Langdon

Beva Nall-Langdon

Alyssa Bussard – *Substitute Commission Clerk*

## Agenda

### Approval of March 8, 2021 Minutes

Chairman Rosenthal called for a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting held on March 8, 2021. Mr. Mador made the motion which was seconded by Mr. Cooper. The motion passed unanimously.

## Public Comment of Agenda Items

There were no comments put forth by the public regarding items on the agenda.

## Energy Efficiency Coordinator Report – Kathleen Schomaker

### 1. Streetlighting Project Update

There were no updates at this time.

### 2. EVSE Toolkit Work, Webinars and next steps

Ms. Schomaker has not yet heard from Live Green CT, but they have stated that April is when they will work with the towns to work on the plan on how to move forward with training and so on for the coming months. Ms. Schomaker stated that there needs to be an understanding of what needs to happen regarding building, permitting, zoning regulations, parking and enforcement issues, inventory of fleets - the Fire fleet, Public Works fleet, and for the Government Center fleet. Mr. Mitchell Strickland has made contact with the fleet manager of the Police Department so there is a solid team in place to work on that fleet. The Government Center fleet is relatively small so Ms. Schomaker asked for a volunteer from the commission to take on that inventory. Ms. Demaio said that she would be happy to volunteer with Ms. Kulis assisting.

### 3. Update on Sustainable CT

There were no updates at this time.

### 4. Other business

In March, Ms. Schomaker asked if someone would be on point for tracking the Transportation Climate Initiative - the TCI. She became aware of a Senate bill in front of the CT State Legislature regarding an endorsement of the transportation climate initiative. Mr. Cooper stated he would be on point for this. Mr. Cooper sent a report to the commission for them to read prior to the meeting. The report speaks to TCI and The Greenhouse Gas Initiative. The coalition addresses the pollution made by transportation. This accounts for 38% of the pollution in our region. Governor Lamont signed a bill (Senate Bill 884 - AN ACT REDUCING TRANSPORTATION-RELATED CARBON EMISSIONS) this bill has been filed with the

Legislative Commissioner's Office. The next will be the Senate deciding what happens next.

Ms. Schomaker mentioned that she was at a meeting of the Environment Committee. Ms. Christine Cohen advised the group that the version that had passed the senate had its percentage to go to equity products to go to underserved communities was raised from 35% to 50% of the funds. Those funds will be allocated by an equity advisory board. This directly relates to the work the commission is doing on electric vehicle readiness because if CT has legislation adopting things and Hamden has a plan on what is needed for EV readiness then when the funds are available, the town will be ready.

There are hopes to have two positions relating to grants funded for the town. The Finance Director has been given approval to hire a "project manager for grants" who will oversee things such as FEMA applications and ensure that the funds from the federal program are sent efficiently. The second position would be a "contract grant writer" located in town.

Ms. Schomaker shared that she had a phone conversation with a Mr. Rich Jordan who is the President of the CT State Tesla Association. The conversation was in regards to the Hamden Plaza having new and upcoming Tesla service equipment. The Association would like to have a grand opening at Hamden Plaza in May. Ms. Schomaker asked for potential volunteers for this event. Ms. Demaio, Ms. Kulis, Mr. Rosenthal all signed on to volunteer for this pending event.

## Old Business

1. EV School Bus Webinar Report – Middletown Cost Analysis Discussion from Webinar

This was tabled and added to the next meeting agenda.

2. Beverly MA EV School Bus Case Study

This was tabled and added to the next meeting agenda.

3. Additional EV Seminars

No further comments were made on this agenda item.

4. MEP Progress Update – Larry Rosenthal

This was tabled and added to the next meeting agenda.

## 5. Complete Streets Additional Discussion and Site Visits

No further comments were made on this agenda item.

## 5. Other

Ms. Nall-Langon spoke of National Drive Electric week which is the week of September 25. She mentioned that she would like to start planning the event which will take place on Saturday, September 25 from 12-3. There is a hope that it will take place in the Miller Memorial Library parking lot. Ms. Schomaker stated that she will contact the library Director to ask if this will be possible. Ms. Nall-Langon mentioned that the schedule of the event can be discussed at a later time, but she will be looking for volunteers. The event page will be created and be posted on the National Drive Electric Week website. Once created, electric vehicle owners can register their cars on the website, which will attract the public as their interest lies in speaking to the EV owners. Ms. Nall-Langon also discussed there being a table at this event hosted by the Energy Use and Climate Change Commission. Mr. Langdon spoke to the benefits of this. Commission members will come up with a list of events that the EUCC is involved to send to Mr. Langdon so that a handout can be created. Mr. Langdon also spoke to the importance of including information regarding used electric vehicles. A discussion ensued regarding co-sponsors for this event.

Ms. Demaio mentioned an event on Earth Day on April 24, 2021. The event will be different from past years due to the pandemic. This year, there will be a trail cleanup starting at the middle school. In order to take part, volunteers must first sign up by contacting Joe DeRisi at [jderisi@hamden.com](mailto:jderisi@hamden.com).

## Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:00PM.