

Present: Elizabeth Soper, Rick Weinstein, Cap Chenoweth, Marina Meerburg, Michael Lazorchak

Meeting called to order at: 5:30 p.m.

Review & Approve Minutes

The Committee reviewed the minutes of April 28, 2022. There were no changes.

On a motion by Rick Weinstein, seconded by Marina Meerburg, the Committee approved the minutes as presented.

E-Bike Demo Day

Cap updated the committee, stating that all of the bike shops he had talked with had said they were interested in participating. He noted many of the stores reported that e-bikes are selling quickly and would need to get more in stock. He discussed using the Mayo Events Field, the Recreation Path parking lot in the village or Chase Park as locations. The Committee discussed and felt that the Mayo Events Field was the best location due to parking. Cap agreed to follow up on availability and let the committee know what date. He also noted that there will need to be some promotion of the event – either a write-up or ads in the Stowe Reporter or possibly a banner over the road.

Working Group Reports

Transportation Subcommittee: Marina reported that she had been working with Mila Lonetto, Chair of the Planning Commission, and Sarah McShane, Director of Planning and Zoning, on transportation issues. She said they discussed both the short term and long term plans for transportation in Stowe. They discussed that remote parking and shuttle service is a possibility but would require reliable, frequent shuttles. They also noted that they would like to see the Town utilize e-buses. Overall Marina indicated that her goal is to make Stowe a more pedestrian and bike-friendly town. She noted that potentially ARPA funding could be used to make improvements for the Town, including bike lanes, bus stops, etc. It was noted that the committee felt the Town should be doing more to get input from the community, including having public forums on transportation. Marina explained that the Town has been working with Vail and the State on ideas, such as looking at the feasibility of off-site parking lot sites.

Legislative Update

Rick reported that the Clean Heat Standard bill failed by one vote. House bill S.11 – Municipal Energy Resiliency Initiatives Grant Program – had passed and included \$36M for weatherization, heating system upgrades, and other energy efficiency projects for municipalities. It was also noted that Bill 8518 was approved with granted funds for town Energy work. Marina noted that LCPC would be hiring someone dedicated to working with Town Energy Committees with these funds, and she would update the Committee when someone was hired.

Other Business

Liz noted that there would be no meeting in June due to a number of members being away and unavailable.

She also noted that Catherine is still working to recruit a Student Representative, that she had been in talks with one student who may be interested.

Michael reported that his event on May 25th was well attended with 6 people in person and another 10-12 via the internet, although most were not Stowe residents.

Cap reported that he had met with Town Manager Charles Safford and discussed the plan to include 4 e-mowers on the equipment fund for FY'25, but would like to see one purchased now to see how it goes. Charles asked the committee to get the information together and to him by October for budgeting for the FY'24 fiscal year. He also asked the committee to look into the electrical requirements for charging, which Cap reported was a 50amp breaker, #6 wire and 50amp receptacle. It was noted that when the Town is interviewing for the new Parks Superintendent the Committee would like them to include questions on electric equipment and look to hire someone who will support the transition to electric equipment.

On a motion by Marina, seconded by Rick, the meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.