

Arrowsic Climate Resilience Committee Meeting
Wednesday – November 15, 2023
6:00 – 7:30 pm
Meeting Notes

Participants: Jody, Mona, Karin, Nadine, Jennifer, Tom, Dan, Madeline (Viewshed)

1. Meeting convened at 6PM with participants at the Town Hall and on Zoom
2. Administration
 - a. No changes to the meeting agenda
 - b. Karin put in one comment in last month's minutes, adding contact information for the geologist on the hydrology study. Minutes were approved.
3. Climate Handbook – Discussion
 - a. Changes to the outline
 - i. Paul Schlein suggested putting “waste reduction” back into the Handbook
 - ii. Full agreement
 - b. Writers
 - i. Nadine – waste reduction, and resources
 - ii. Dan – transportation
 - iii. Aleisha – energy efficiency at home
 - iv. Jody – small steps at home
 - v. Karin – emergency preparedness
 - c. Target Audience Discussion
 - i. Jody heard that the Stewardship Guide was appreciated in how it helped people feel connected to the community
 - ii. We could engage schools/HS students in distributing the Guide, and consider including no-cost, non-home actions that students could take (remembering they are often influencers in their homes)
 - iii. Our audience is most likely already inclined toward taking action on climate resilience but needs some guidance on next steps, comparing actions, etc.
 - d. Calendar
 - i. December 31:
 1. First draft of all pages completed.
 2. Photos selected and/or identified as a need.
 - ii. January 15: Committee Review complete.
 - iii. January 30: Editor (Tom Spear) makes final changes.
 - iv. February 1: Send package to designer.
 - v. February 15: Design drafted and given to ACRC/ACC for final review
 - vi. March 1: Handbook finalized.
 - vii. March 15: Print, upload & publicize final Handbook!
4. Climate Action Plan – Discussion
 - a. (Madeline) Some questions/comments related to the Individual Actions sections (e.g., Emergency Response 7.3) and whether some of these fit better in the Handbook, rather than the CAP.
 - i. Duplication may be okay as long as we are consistent. Madeline will pull out the ones where this comment was made, for awareness.
 - ii. Suggestion made to tighten up the recommendations and consider maintaining the same number in each section.
 - b. (Jennifer) When the town is asked to approve this, there will be questions about how binding it is

- i. Discussion clarified that this is a guidance document for the town and all its committees on what it can do with the resources they have, and on what the community thinks are the highest priorities
 - ii. The content will be finalized to facilitate its use. The implementation table reflects what Madeline and Judy understand about the Town ... but implementation/integration into the committees will really depend on who takes responsibility.
 - iii. Jennifer will review again from the lens of how actionable it is (i.e., what we're asking if adopted)
 - iv. As a related point, it's good to have some committee track progress. The ACRC could do this AND the governor's office is interested in towns having standing climate committees so we may want to add that.
 - c. Madeline and Judy will pull out a Summary Section to be available to use as a stand-alone 2-pager as well as to be included as the first section
 - d. Madeline asked if priorities from the community meeting matched our expectations? (as ranked in the Implementation Table)
 - i. Suggestion to reorganize action/strategies by priority within each category
 - ii. Request that ACRC reviews this table and the rankings, etc., and enter comments, to make sure its accurate and reflects the town organization
 - e. Madeline needs someone from the grants subcommittee to coordinate and share their working list ... so opportunities can be plugged in appropriately
 - f. Schedule: Plan is to have this ready to go next week for the public along with a summary ... when the letter goes out on the 21st, it will link to this (pdf, not comment-enabled)
 - g. Do we want an Acknowledgements page?
 - i. Yes – to include: the conservation commission, the state/grantor, ACRC, all of the town committees, residents who turned out for the workshops
- 5. Other sub-committee & activity report-outs
 - a. Communications
 - i. Thanks to Karin for conveying the meeting notes to post and send out every month
 - ii. Jody would like to have something in the Monday morning email that goes out.
 - 1. Jennifer will work on some ideas for December
 - 2. Aleisha can help starting in January
 - b. Roads
 - i. Jody shared there is a NOAA grant that could contribute to the MDOT work on 127 in terms of resilience

NEXT MEETING

The public has until 12/31 to comment on the CAP and we will have Handbook section drafts complete by 12/31 ... so we will meet the **first or second Wednesday of January**.