

Minutes

MVC Climate Action Task Force

Friday, April 1, 2022

Zoom

CATF members present: Ben Robinson (BR), Tristan Israel (TI), Bob Johnston (BJ), Alan Strahler (AS), Kate Warner (KW), Noli Taylor (NT), Cheryl Doble (CD), Joan Malkin (JM), Beckie Scotten Finn (BSF), Richard Toole (RT), Bill Straw (BS), Stephen Kass (SK), Richard Andre (RA), Dion Alley (DA), Liz Durkee (LD), Dan Doyle (DD)

1. The Cost of Doing Nothing presentation recap

Oak Bluffs was found to have the most economic assets at stake with SLR and increased storm events. MVC staff and CATF need to vet the methodology of the group which took on the analysis.

The consultant took publicly available datasets and ran it through their modeling program.

Scope was different from the CCC; much less \$ invested in MV's analysis. Budget was notably less here. The leads just looked at building damage and job loss;

2. CAP update / meetings with towns and facilitation team

Edgartown was very interested in the polling less interested in the discussion; WT and OB have also been completed. These meetings include department heads and key town staff; they are polled in respect to climate change and resiliency issues. This includes asking them to prioritize. This stage will culminate in findings from all seven towns.

3. Vision Fellowship update

NT: The Vision Fellowship program has funded an Energy Planner at MVC. Liz and Kate have been integral in the formation of these positions. The other position will be focused on big picture regional issues; this second position will take on Education Outreach and will be sited at V Power; that hire will also be working with residents and businesses to achieve 100% renewable targets.

This is 80 hours of human labor / week focused on these key issues.

RA: Many thanks to Kate, Liz, and Noli.

NT: Vision Fellowship is seeing this as a sort of pilot;

4. Grant writer / researcher position update

Can we go out to seek a hire, and do we have money available? Where do we house them?

TI: If this relates to setting up an Adaptation Fund, or Community Fund of sorts, we need to set up a process to vet and prioritize projects.

JM: As job description is needed.

KW: Should we bring in Town Administrators to discuss at this early stage? It might behoove us to do that.

Given this is a potential funding mechanism for projects otherwise unfunded, it represents another service added.

BJ: We should consider adapting the proven practice/fundraising apparatus the island Inst. has found successful.

BR: An Island financing meeting for Isl. Institute?

MG: A sustainable funding mechanism could come in the form of a tourism tax; tons of dollars are generated for conservation in Palau through this framework; our assets are tourists; we should exact green fees; half could go towards infrastructure upgrades and half to conservation organizations.

BJ: A large event fee built into the Beach Road festival could also generate meaningful dollars toward these fundraising efforts.

