

**AVON CLEAN ENERGY COMMISSION**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
February 21, 2024

**I. OATH OF OFFICE**

The Town Clerk administered the Oath of Office to the newly appointed members.

**II. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 7:08 pm by the Town Clerk in the Avon Room at the Avon Town Offices. Members Present: Carrie Firestone, Christine Winter, Michael Dawson, Michael Guerrero, Jeffrey Landsberg, Kim Stevenson (arrived at 7:35 p.m.), and student member Anagha Bhumireddy. Staff Member Present: Grace Tiezzi, Assistant Town Manager. Member Absent: Venkat Anupoju.

**III. NOMINATION & ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR**

The Town Clerk took nominations for the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Commission.

On a motion from Ms. Winter and a second from Mr. Dawson, Carrie Firestone was nominated as Chair of the Commission. The motion was unanimously approved.

On a motion from Ms. Firestone and a second from Mr. Landsberg, Christine Winter was nominated as Vice-Chair of the Commission. The motion was unanimously approved.

**IV. APPROVAL OF THE PRECEEDING MINUTES**

On a motion from Mr. Guerrero and second from Mr. Dawson, the minutes of the November 15, 2023 meeting were unanimously approved.

**V. COMMUNICATION FROM AUDIENCE – None**

**VI. COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION**

The Commission members introduced themselves to new member Mr. Landsberg and provided information about their background and interests. Ms. Tiezzi shared updates on the EV charging station at the Library. Ms. Firestone shared a plan to honor former member Bernie Zahren for his service to the community.

Ms. Firestone updated the Commission on the outcome of the New Year, New Yard event. Ideas that came out of the event include native plant garden tours, invasive species pull events, a garden party, a native plant art contest, a native plant policy for town projects, a summit for public works staff in the region, additional resources on the website, a seed library, and a pop-up native plant sale.

**VII. OLD BUSINESS**

**a. Town-wide Energy Plan – Visioning & Goal Setting**

The Commission members discussed the Community Energy Plan and commented on the draft.

On a Motion from Mr. Guerrero and a second by Mr. Dawson, the Commission recommended the Plan to the Town Council for adoption. The motion was unanimously approved.

Ms. Tiezzi stated that she planned to prepare a brief presentation for the Town Council about the plan and would anticipate this item being on their April agenda. The Commission discussed beginning to implement the short-term goals of the plan now.

**b. Green Up! Avon Sustainability**

The Commission brainstormed focus areas, opportunities for community involvement and potential events in Spring 2024.

The Commission decided it would continue to encourage residents to complete Home Energy Solutions assessments this year. They would also focus on solar in 2024 and continue to educate themselves on heat pump technology. They will also continue to program around invasive species removal and native plants and pollinators. Ms. Tiezzi mentioned that rehabbing the existing Monarch Waystation in Alsop Meadows would be a great project to start with.

**c. Winter 2024 Programming Schedule**

The Commission discussed ideas for 2024 programming including house tours and a garden party.

**d. Ongoing Project Updates**

**i. CT Green Bank Solar Marketplace Assistance Program**

Ms. Tiezzi shared that the solar arrays are active at this time and the Green Bank is working to close out the projects. The Commission discussed ideas for a celebration/ribbon cutting/dedication event in April.

**ii. EV Charging Stations**

Ms. Tiezzi stated that the charger is now active and getting some use. The Commission discussed the rate that is being charged at the station and plans for a ribbon cutting ceremony.

**VIII. NEW BUSINESS - None**

**IX. ADJOURN**

Ms. Winter motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:01 pm. Mr. Guerrero seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Respectfully Submitted:  
Chairperson Carrie Firestone

Attest: Grace Tiezzi, Assistant Town Manager