

**Meeting Minutes**  
**Columbia Environmental Advisory Committee**  
**Tuesday, November 17, 2015**  
**Adella G. Urban Administrative Offices Conference Room**

**Members Present:** Carole Williamson, Bryan Tarbell, Andrea Drabicki.

**Also Present:** Town Administrator Natasha Nau.

**1. CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 5:33 pm.

**2. AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS:** No audience.

**3. OLD BUSINESS:**

**3.1 Public Relations/awareness campaign methods for getting the word out:** N. Nau reiterated that the committee can utilize their page on the website. In addition, there is a new social media linked to the website (Facebook), email notifications and the upcoming new quarterly newsletter. Committee members asked for clarification on frequency of the upcoming newsletter and what its method of delivery will be. N. Nau stated that it will go out via email on a quarterly basis. N. Nau encouraged committee members to brainstorm and / or begin drafting topics they want to submit for the first edition of the newsletter.

**3.2 ECEC workshop on 11/10/15:** N. Nau reported that she, Public Works Director George Murphy, Porter School Facilities Manager Mike Sylvester all attended the final Eversource workshop on November 10, 2015. She found it to be extremely beneficial because staff had the opportunity to sit down and begin working out a "Municipal Action Plan." N. Nau also asked Eversource the EAC's question from the its October meeting, being whether or not the town's first "Bright Ideas Grant" dollars could be spent on subsidizing home energy audits for town residents as well as the advertisement of such an event. Eversource stated they will look into this further and provide an answer in the near future. N. Nau stated that there may be a more cost effective method for post card mailers versus the bulk mailings. Cathy Osten suggested at a recent BOS meeting that the town of Sprague uses a service called "Everyday Direct Mail."

**3.3 Senior Center energy audit on 11/10/15:** N. Nau reported that the energy audit on the Senior Center was performed by Tom Quigley on the same day as the Eversource workshop later in the day. G. Murphy and Bud Meyers were present for the audit which took approximately two hours. N. Nau stated that the town should receive the audit report in a few weeks. N. Nau shared that other towns expressed how helpful / useful they felt the audit reports were.

**3.4 CIRCA's Municipal Resilience Grant – not awarded:** Unfortunately the application that N. Nau submitted was not awarded for the funding requested. Committee members suggested pursuing same grant next year, possibly for same purchase of generator or other projects.

**4. NEW BUSINESS:**

**4.1 Set 2016 meeting schedule:** The EAC approved the 16-17 meeting schedule as presented. The EAC will meet at 5:30 pm on the third Tuesday monthly from January 2016-January 2017.

**\*\*NOTE \*\*** There will be no EAC meeting in December 2015 or December 2016.

Discussion on miscellaneous topics took place amongst the Committee.

**5. ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting adjourned at 6:40 pm.