

1. FS\_Sustainability\_Committee\_Agenda\_2021\_04\_01

Documents:

[FS\\_SUSTAINABILITY\\_COMMITTEE\\_AGENDA\\_2021\\_04\\_01.PDF](#)

1.1. FS\_Sustainability\_Committee\_Draft\_Minutes\_2021\_04\_01

Documents:

[FS\\_SUSTAINABILITY\\_COMMITTEE\\_DRAFT\\_MINUTES\\_2021\\_04\\_01.PDF](#)



# TOWN OF GREENWICH

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Fred Camillo  
*First Selectman*

## Greenwich Sustainability Committee

April 1, 2021

11:00 A.M.

Virtual Meeting

<https://greenwichct.zoom.us/j/87947304903?pwd=WGtBRWFsOFViQXQvbFlxcTM0S0g2dz09>

Meeting ID: 879 4730 4903

Passcode: 3508498

Dial-In: 1 646 518 9805

### AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Minutes
  - a. Approval of March 4, 2021 meeting minutes
3. Sustainable CT – Status Update
  - Update on Equity Discussions – Sarah Cocco and Ali Ghiorse
  - Next Steps
4. Earth Day Initiatives – Sarah Cocco
5. Sector Updates
  - BET / Budget – Bicycle Master Plan – Aleksandra Moch
  - Energy Committee
  - Land / Water – Library Panel Discussions
6. Public Engagement Initiatives – Discussion – Myra Klockenbrink
7. New Business/Next Steps
  - Field Discussion
8. Adjourn

Proposed Next Meeting: May 6, 2021, 11 AM

*The Town complies with all applicable federal and state laws regarding non-discrimination, equal opportunity, affirmative action, and providing reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities. If you require an accommodation to participate, please contact the Commissioner of Human Services at 203-622-3800 or [demetria.nelson@greenwichct.org](mailto:demetria.nelson@greenwichct.org).*

"The Town of Greenwich is Dedicated to Diversity and Equal Employment Opportunity"

## MINUTES - DRAFT

### Sustainability Committee Meeting - VIRTUAL MEETING

April 1, 2021

Attendance: Committee members: Jill Oberlander, Co-Chair; Pat Sesto, Co-Chair; Sarah Coccaro; Karyn Calcano; Ashley Cole; Elizabeth Dempsey; Julie DesChamps; Ali Ghiorse; Myra Klockenbrink; Aleksandra Moch; Cheryl Moss; Sharon Psychojas; Ani Widham. Invited guests and public: Bobby Walker, Jr.; Susan Rudolph; unidentified member of public.

1. **Call to Order.** Meeting was called to order at 11:08 a.m.
2. **Minutes.** Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the minutes from the March 4, 2021 meeting were approved.
3. **Sustainable CT Status Update:** Ms. Coccaro, Ms. Ghiorse, and Ms. Oberlander updated the Committee on discussions with Sustainable CT Equity Coach Giovanna Adams and participation in Sustainable CT's equity training. Ms. Ghiorse reported on her attendance at the March 2021 meeting of the First Selectman's Diversity Advisory Committee (FSDAC) and introduced FSDAC's Vice-Chair, Bobby Walker.

Mr. Walker is currently the Assistant Head for Student and Community Life at Greenwich Academy, in addition to his role on the FSDAC and other community positions. In this position, he works to keep Greenwich Academy and its students connected to the larger community. The FSDAC is currently undergoing its own equity training, which is being facilitated by Erin Crosby, Director of Women's Empowerment and Racial Justice at the Greenwich YWCA. Mr. Walker invited Sustainability Committee members to attend the meetings of the FSDAC, noting that they are public meetings and all are welcome. He also confirmed that he met with First Selectman Camillo and that Mr. Camillo is in support of developing an equity statement for the Town of Greenwich.

**Next steps:** the Committee agreed to continue to pursue partnerships and dialogue throughout the community on equity; the Committee noted the need to look at its own actions using an equity lens, including concerns about environmental justice, and noted the availability of Sustainable CT's Equity Toolkit as offering assistance in performing this assessment; the Committee will evaluate Town fields and usage of artificial turf as an example of a Town project with both sustainable and equity concerns.

4. **Earth Day Initiatives.** Ms. Coccaro reported on Earth Week activities, including: Live Like Luke; bell-ringing; proposed Pollinator Pathway Resolution (see item 6 below); and adoption of an Earth Day Resolution by the Board of Selectment. **Next steps:** Develop a press release on all the Town Earth Day activities; submit Pollinator Pathway Resolution to Board of Selectmen for consideration and vote (Jill); Draft and submit Earth Day Resolution to Board of Selectmen for consideration and vote (Pat).

5. **Sector Updates.** In addition to the written sector reports filed with the agenda for the meeting, the Committee heard reports from: Aleksandra Moch, sector chair for Transportation and Air Quality, on efforts to lobby for inclusion of funding for the Bike Route Study in the Fiscal 2022 budget; Myra Klockenbrink, sector chair for Land & Water, on the One Water Series; Ms. Oberlander on the first two meetings of the Energy Committee. Ms. Oberlander reported that Allison Walsh will be the Sustainability Committee's liaison to the Energy Committee.
6. **New Business: Field Discussion; Pollinator Pathway Resolution.** The Committee unanimously voted to take agenda Item 7, New Business, out-of-order to enter into a dialogue on Town fields and artificial turf with guest Susan Rudolph, representative of Real Grass for Healthy Kids. The Committee discussed both the need for fields as well as the environmental concerns related to artificial turf, including disposal, chemical treatment of both infill and "grass", and water run-off. Ms. DesChamps suggested research on engineered natural grass fields in other communities to determine actual cost and usage numbers. The Committee agreed to taking up the fields discussion, and suggested that Land & Water sector be the lead.

**Pollinator Pathway:** Ms. Klockenbrink and Ms. Moch presented the proposed Pollinator Pathway Resolution, commenting that it is drafted to encourage greater action to protect pollinators, but that it doesn't impose burdens on the Town. Ms. Klockenbrink noted that a first step for the Pollinator Pathway Committee will be to understand what the Town's current practices are and what limitations there may be on implementing additional practices that are more supportive of pollinators. After a motion duly made and seconded, the Committee unanimously agreed to request the Board of Selectmen add the Pollinator Pathway Resolution to the April 8<sup>th</sup> Board of Selectmen Agenda. **Next steps:** Ms. Oberlander to forward the proposed Resolution to Barbara Heins for inclusion on the April 8<sup>th</sup> agenda.

**Mentorship Opportunity:** Ms. DesChamps read an email from a local student, Isabelle Harper, requesting Sustainability Committee support and mentorship for a new youth chapter of 350.org, named the Greenwich Environmental Advocacy Group. **Next steps:** Ms. DesChamps will reach out to Sustainability Committee members with additional information.

The next meeting will be scheduled on Thursday, May 6, 2021 from 11 am to 12:30 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

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Jill K. Oberlander  
Co-Chair & Recording Secretary