1. Selectmen_Sustainability_Committee_Agenda_2020_11_19

   Documents:

       SELECTMEN_SUSTAINABILITY_COMMITTEE_AGENDA_2020_11_19.PDF

1.I. FS_Sustainability_Committee_Agenda_Packet_2020_11_19

   Documents:

       FS_SUSTAINABILITY_COMMITTEE_AGENDA_PACKET_2020_11_19.PDF

2. FS_Sustainability_Committee_Draft_Minutes_2020_11_19

   Documents:

       FS_SUSTAINABILITY_COMMITTEE_DRAFT_MINUTES_2020_11_19.PDF
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1. Call to Order

2. Minutes
   a. Approval of October 29, 2020 meeting minutes

3. Sustainable CT Project Support - Update – Sarah Coccaro and Aleks Moch
   • Discussion of Equity Statement – Sarah Coccaro

4. Outreach Efforts:
   • Update on Community Contact List – Elizabeth Dempsey
   • Introduction Letter to Conservation Caboodle and Realtors – Jill Oberlander, Sarah Coccaro
   • Public Relations – Submission to Greenwich Neighbors – Sarah Coccaro
   • Junior Sustainability Committee – Jill Oberlander

5. Status Updates – Written Reports by Sector Subcommittees
   o Food Sustainability; Waste Reduction / Diversion; Transportation; Enhancement; Water & Land Use; Energy; Legislative
   o Other updates:
     ▪ Committee on Tipping Fees – Cheryl Moss
     ▪ Electric Vehicle Charger – Jill Oberlander
     ▪ Update on Sustainability Plan – Uirling Searle; Julie DesChamps

6. Updates on CCSMM

7. New Business / Next Steps
   • Discuss Outreach to WESTCOG

8. Adjourn

Proposed Next Meeting: Thursday, December 3, 2020, 12 PM

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.

"The Town of Greenwich is Dedicated to Diversity and Equal Employment Opportunity"
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"The Town of Greenwich is Dedicated to Diversity and Equal Employment Opportunity"
November 19, 2020

Sustainability Committee
Beautification and Culture

Dear Friends and Fellow Members;

I am happy to report that the Greenwich Greenscape Commission has had a very successful first project in the planting of 30,000 crocuses along the Chestnut Allee. Several garden clubs and volunteers showed up to help plant. It was a great success. Our next project will be in a few weeks and we will mix in daffodil bulbs with the crocuses and also focus on the Edgewood Green area on the Post Road. If you would like to volunteer, please let me know.

Here is the GFP article about the project if you haven’t seen it.


I have also been offered money to help landscape Hillside Road but I am not sure that is possible given the soil conditions. However, this seems to not make sense to me as trees would actually improve soil conditions and there seems more good than bad about planting trees even in a compromised soil situation. Maybe this committee can help me with that.

As always – thank you for all your efforts with our lovely town.

Ashley Cole
LEGISLATION AND ADVOCACY / GREENWICH SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

Elizabeth Dempsey, Svetlana Wasserman

- Update: No environmental/sustainable ordinance changes are being proposed in front of the RTM at this moment. The pandemic continues to close the CT legislature. No new legislation is passing. Zoom hearings are being held however nothing on sustainable issues at the moment.

- Reached out to P. Sesto to offer advocacy assistance if needed on Energy Commission/Committee. We would be happy to organize resident testimony, letters of support, resident attendance on zoom calls etc.

- L and A sector meeting held – paths forward and survey

- Completed and submitted Sector Survey

- Discussed options to help the Conservation Department with Sustainable CT Recertification process with S. Coccaro

- Continued to work with the Land and Water Sector. Svetlana will also join the Land and Water Subsector. Ongoing planning for advocacy/awareness ideas with Land and Water continues.

- Contact list – work ongoing
1. The subcommittee members had learned about air quality. Status of Connecticut’s Air Quality was provided by Amanda Fritz, Air Bureau of CT DEEP. There is one air monitoring station in Greenwich located at Greenwich Point. This station has been monitoring ozone levels since 1978. Overall, CT air quality has been improving over time. Greenwich, however suffers from increasing levels of ozone due to its close proximity to New York City. Southwest winds are the predominant transport mechanism of pollutants into Connecticut with New York City on their way. Ozone is formed by the reaction of pollutants with heat and sunlight. Ozone is currently the only pollutant above the NAAQS (National Ambient Air Quality Standards) in CT.

2. Several meetings took place to discuss the funding for the new *Bicycle Friendly Greenwich Plan*. Originally expected to be fully funded by Sustainable CT, the plan is now facing intensive fundraising campaign with only fraction of the goal covered by Sustainable CT.

3. The upcoming meeting had been rescheduled for the week after the Thanksgiving.
Waste Reduction Sector Update
By Julie DesChamps
Greenwich Sustainability Committee 11.19.20

1. Food Scrap Recycling Pilot:
   a. Just It Eat screening (11.18-19) & panel discussion (11.19 @ 7-8 pm) with Chef Raquel Rivera of A Pinch of Salt, Beth Radov of Love Your Food NY, Julie DesChamps, moderated by Ali Ghiorse. Kicks off Save the Food Challenge to reduce food waste by 25% through prevention, donation & composting.
   b. July-October tonnages = 12.3 tons (24,600 lbs) diverted

2. Greenwich Schools:
   a. GPS Green Schools: meeting 11.13, invited Dan Watson of GPS Facilities for update re school gardens, cafeteria waste reduction, cleaning procedures, air quality & Tools for Schools. New Lebanon School will be installing garden beds in time for spring; gazebo plans to go to TOG architectural committee.
   b. Greenwich Academy: efforts toward reusables; reinitiating cafeteria composting; recycling video.
   c. Merry, Bright & Waste Free Holidays webinar (12.1 @ 10-11 am): organized by PTAC Green Schools, Waste Free Greenwich and Conservation Commission. Waste reduction tips for holiday wrapping, decor & gifts with Sarah Coccaro, Dr. Gregory Kramer, Patricia Lee (BOBO wraps), Julie DesChamps

3. Recycling:
   a. ReCollect’s Waste Wizard: Julie & Sally Davies in discussions re. possibility of recycling search engine in Greenwich; to present to DPW. (see example below)

4. CT Plastic ordinances:
   a. Stamford’s polystyrene ban unanimously passed in September, in effect
   b. Norwalk’s polystyrene, straw & stirrer ban passed in September 2018, in effect April 2021
   c. Discussion with Joan Seguin, Shellfish Commission re steps forward; to reach out to Jack Egan of Surfrider CT; to research status of CT General Assembly bills

5. CCSMM Working Groups: participated in following meetings
   a. Organics (11.4.20)
      i. Jon Fife, Smart Feed Tech Board Member– Commercial Animal Feed from Food Waste
      ii. Dawn Pettinelli, UConn Master Composter Program Director, Associate Extension Educator Department of Plant Science & Landscape Architecture, University of Connecticut – Educational Resources to Support Backyard Composting
      iii. Steve Changaris, CT NWRA Chapter Director - Co-collection of Organics from the Hauler Perspective
   b. Increasing Recycling (11.9.20):
      i. Eric Forbes, Director, Solid Waste Management Program, Fairfax County, Virginia Q&A, “Fairfax Count’s Glass Recycling”
      ii. Sherill Baldwin, Environmental Analyst, Sustainable Materials Management, CT DEEP: Building Deconstruction the value of reuse

What Goes Where?

Have you ever been unsure about which items can be recycled, or which items are considered too hazardous to put in your trash bin? With our new “What Goes Where?” tool, we've taken the guesswork out. Simply type in the name of the item you have a question about, and information will be provided on how best to dispose of it in the District.

*Note: Collection schedules for commercial and multi-family properties with four or more units will not appear in this tool. Check with your waste service provider to find out more.

What Goes Where?  Waste Sorting Game  Need help?

Type the name of a waste item and we'll tell you how to recycle or dispose of it.

Battery (rechargeable, NiCd, Lithium Ion, Button, greater than 9 volts)

To safely dispose of batteries, tape terminals of rechargeable batteries (nickel-cadmium/NiCd and lithium ion), button cell batteries, and batteries greater than 9 volts. These batteries could cause fires or are considered hazardous waste. Do not place in trash or recycling bin.

Drop-off at Fort Totten - Household Hazardous Waste

Drop off this item for safe handling.

Fort Totten Transfer Station

Battery & Cell Phone Drop-off - Call2Recycle

Drop off batteries and cellphones for recycling.

Home Depot

Ace Hardware - 1055 5th St NW

Logan Hardware

Lowes

Ace Hardware - 4500 Wisconsin Ave NW

Back
MINUTES - DRAFT

Sustainability Committee Meeting - VIRTUAL MEETING

November 19, 2020

Attendance: Jill Oberlander, Committee Chair; Pat Sesto, Committee Co-Chair; Sarah Coccaro; Ashley Cole; Elizabeth Dempsey; Julie DesChamps; Ali Ghiorse; Myra Klockenbrink; Aleksandra Moch; Cheryl Moss, Urung Searle and Svetlana Wasserman.

1. **Call to Order.** Meeting was called to order at 12:06 p.m.

2. **Minutes.** Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the minutes from the October 29, 2020 meetings were approved as amended.

3. **Sustainable CT Project Support.** The Committee endorsed the framework proposed by Ms. Sesto for support for the Conservation Commission’s Sustainable CT application with the recognition that the Committee’s purpose is to gather information on what is happening in the larger community, identify gaps, and support existing departments. Ms. Coccaro and Ms. Moch will reach out to sector chairs to discuss Sustainable CT projects. Members agreed to transmit information to Ms. Coccaro and Ms. Moch on work already in progress and also to help identify groups that might take on projects that are desired but not yet initiated. As a third tier, the Sustainability Committee may be asked to consider taking on a specific project if it is highly desired and not otherwise accounted for in the community. **Next Steps:** (1) Ms. Coccaro and Ms. Moch will distribute Sustainable CT project lists to sector chairs and will schedule individual meetings to review; (2) Ms. Ghiorse will distribute the New Milford, CT project deck as an example.

   a. **Discussion of Equity Statement.** Ms. Coccaro explained that Sustainable CT has added a new project on equity and the Town of Greenwich has the opportunity to be one of the first communities to adopt a statement on equity. Ms. Ghiorse noted that it would be preferable to obtain broader community participation on the question of equity before a statement is crafted. The Committee brainstormed ideas on how to generate community input on equity issues, including holding a community forum with other interested organizations. Organizations that may be interested were identified as: the Greenwich United Way, Boys & Girls Club of Greenwich, YWCA of Greenwich, Family Centers, Greenwich Communities, First Selectman’s Diversity Advisory Committee, and the League of Women Voters Greenwich. **Next Steps:** Ms. Oberlander and Ms. Ghiorse will develop a plan to connect with identified groups and others to determine interest in a community forum.

   b. **Equity Coach.** As part of the discussion on developing an equity statement, Ms. Ghiorse offered to contact Sustainable CT to learn more about opportunities to bring in an equity coach to support the Committee’s outreach efforts. Next Steps: **Ms. Ghiorse to contact Sustainable CT.**
4. **Outreach Efforts.** The Committee discussed the need for a more coordinated public relations effort and agreed that any statement that purports to be from the Sustainability Committee be first reviewed and approved by the Committee. The Committee recognized the value of branding, including the reference to the Committee as the Greenwich Sustainability Committee and not other labels. Ms. Dempsey updated all on the development of a contact list. Ms. Coccaro is preparing an article discussing the Sustainability Committee for publication in Greenwich Neighbors. She will share a draft with the Committee before publishing it. The Committee discussed the merits and how best to reach out to Greenwich schools on Sustainability initiatives and the work of the Committee. **Next Steps:** (1) Ms. Coccaro to distribute a draft of the article for Greenwich Neighbors; (2) Ms. Dempsey to continue to build out the contact list and discuss with Ms. Oberlander options for shared information; (3) Ms. Oberlander to identify the existing environmental and sustainability clubs, including Earthrise, within Greenwich schools, public and private; (4) Ms. Oberlander to follow up with Ms. Kaether to add the logo to the Town website and to address references to the Greenwich Sustainability Committee.

5. **Status Updates:** Written reports were submitted in advance of the meeting. (Note: copies attached here).
   
   a. **Committee on Tipping Fees.** Ms. Moss update the Committee on the work of the First Selectman’s Committee on Waste Management, with conversation focused on ways to improve on leaf collection, composting, and food scraps collection.
   
   b. **Electric Vehicle Charger.** Ms. Oberlander advised that the contract with the provider of the EV charging station had been signed.
   
   c. **Update on Sustainability Plan.** Ms. DesChamps advised that all sector updates were received and that a draft for review will be distributed for discussion at the next meeting. **Next Steps:** Ms. DesChamps and Ms. Searle will format a distribute a first draft of a Sustainability Plan.

6. **Update on CCSMM.** This item was not discussed due to time constraints.

7. **New Business**
   
   a. **Outreach to WESTCOG:** This item was not discussed due to time constraints.

8. **Next Steps:** In addition to the items referenced above:
   
   a. Holdover: Sustainability Committee outreach to the Conservation Commission, Department of Public Works, Planning & Zoning (re: POCD and Sustainability Plan).
   
   b. Holdover: update on Town Hall’s waste reduction plans.
   
   c. Next meeting: The proposed next meeting is: Thursday, December 10th, 2020 from 12 noon to 1:30 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.
Jill K. Oberlander
Co-Chair & Recording Secretary