

MINUTES – DRAFT

Sustainability Committee Meeting – VIRTUAL

April 7, 2022

Attendance: Committee members: Patricia Sesto, Co-chair; Janet Stone McGuigan, Co-Chair; Margarita Alban; Karyn Calcano; Fred Camillo, Sarah Coccaro; Ashley Cole; Elizabeth Dempsey; Julie DesChamps; Susan Foster; Elise Green; Myra Klockenbrink; JoAnn Messina; Jill Oberlander; Peter Schweinfurth; Urling Searle; Joan Seguin; Silvia Skverer; Susan Rudolph; Svetlana Wasserman

1. **Call to Order.** Meeting was called to order at 11:02 a.m.
2. **Minutes.** Upon a duly motion made and seconded, the minutes from the March 3, 2022 meeting were approved with scribe's edit.
3. Updated **State of Sustainability Report** next steps
 - a. April 14 Board of Selectmen meeting needs to be moved

Ms. DesChamps and Ms. Dempsey offered to present State of Sustainability Report at the Board of Selectman meeting – Friday, April 22nd at 12:30pm

- b. Update the Report's introduction

The Committee discussed format changes and rolling updates for Report. Upon a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously agreed to publish the State of Sustainability Report annually around Earth Day. **Action item:** Ms. Klockenbrink to make edits to introduction.

4. **Earth Day Town Hall Proclamation** (Friday, April 22nd at 3:30pm)

Ms. Coccaro updated the committee on the town-wide Earth Month calendar of events, which includes the reading of the Earth Day Proclamation by the First Selectman on Friday, April 22nd (Earth Day) at 3:30pm on the front steps of Town Hall. All Sustainability Committee members and environmental partners are invited. More details are provided on the Town website.

5. Sector Updates

- a. Food Systems Sector – Ms. Coccaro thanked community partners for their promotional support and attendance at the inaugural panel of the Greenwich Food System Forum.
- b. Marketing & Outreach – Ms. Calcano presented the Facebook page to the Committee and discussed methods for increasing promotion and outreach.
- c. Waste Management Sector – Ms. DesChamps reviewed upcoming events and initiatives.
- d. Beautification and Enhancement Sector – Ms. Cole & Ms. Foster updated the committee on recent initiatives.

Fred Camillo joined the meeting at 12:02 PM

e. Committee members discussed having an advocate from Board of Education on the Sustainability Committee.

f. Business Sector – Ms. Skverer updated the Committee on efforts through this sector. See individual report for more details.

g. Land/Water Sector – Ms. Klockenbrink updated on upcoming community events and ‘One Land’ article series published through the Greenwich Free Press, which was written by members of the Land/Water Sector.

6. Old Business

a. March 29 P&Z Public Hearing on Mead Point

Ms. Stone McGuigan gave kudos to Ms. Klockenbrink for providing written and in person testimony during the Mead Point application hearing at the Planning and Zoning meetings.

b. Endorsements

i. Electronic approval of Waste Free Fair, EV Forum – The Sustainability Committee has endorsed both events via email as community partners.

ii. Land/Water and Legislation & Advocacy Sectors asked for endorsement of three bills up for votes by the State Senate/House: HB 5140, SB 120, and SB 115. A subsequent email will be sent out with more information and an electronic vote.

7. New Business/ Next Steps

a. Pollinator Mural ribbon cutting Wednesday, April 27 at 11am

Ms. Klockenbrink updated the Committee on the Pollinator Pathway mural ribbon cutting ceremony on Wednesday, April 27th at 11am. All are welcome.

b. Conservation Caboodle and April calendar

Ms. Coccaro updated the Committee on the April Earth Month Calendar during Agenda item #4 above.

c. Possible committee statement regarding 8-30g

Ms. Cole recommended the Committee draft a letter to publish on 8-30g.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 5th at 11 AM in the Town Hall Cone Room and via Zoom.

The meeting adjourned at 12:29 PM

Sarah Coccaro
Conservation Resource Manager

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