



TOWN OF GREENWICH

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Fred Camillo
First Selectman

Greenwich Sustainability Committee
March 2, 2023

MINUTES

Attendees: Janet Stone McGuigan, co-chair; Beth Evans, co-chair; Patricia Adams; Nikki Barrett; Danielle Blain, Sarah Cocco; Bob DeAngelo, Julie DesChamps; Elizabeth Dempsey; Myra Klockenbrink; Susan Foster; Ali Ghiorse; Kim Gregory; Jenny Larkin; Snehal Mhatre, Aleksandra Moch; Catarina Moura; Stephanie O'Donnell; Rebecca Poirier; Lauren Rabin; Jeff Robertson; Susan Rudolph; Urling Searle; Joan Seguin; Peter Schweinfurth; Silvina Skverer; Svetlana Wasserman; Ching LN?

1. Call to Order at 11:05am
2. Approval of February 2, 2023 meeting minutes
3. Speaker Series, Next Steps –
 - a. Ms. Ghiorse Began by sharing information on the Community Engagement Working Group linked [HERE](#)
 - b. Ms. Ghiorse presented the roles and structure of the speaker series linked [HERE](#) as a way to define how the committee frames and presents information about climate change. The most important part to do in advance is confirming date/time/venue/budget.
 - c. Ms. Stone McGuigan covered questions about the climate action plan and the role the Community Engagement working group would play in it by stating that the Sustainability Committee is ready to support the climate action plan put forward by the Conservation Department which will be presented later.
 - d. Majority of this work leans on the sector chair in collaboration with help from Ms. Gregory. Branding and contact points may be newsletter and social media which would include Ms. Klockenbrink and Ms. McMullin respectively.
 - e. Ms. Klockenbrink spoke on how the speaker series was broken-down and explained by Ms. Ghiorse in the document and this can make it easier over time.
 - f. Ms. Gregory spoke about how what makes the speaker series most important is that it adds branding and shows each sector head roles and topics of focus. Having a single location and a good formula is what will make this work. This allows for a well-planned out editorial calendar. This would include long range planning and promotional material.
 - g. Ms. Moch made a motion to approve the speaker series by community sectors and community working group
 - i. Motion was approved by everyone present
4. 2023 GSC Annual Report –
 - a. Ms. DesChamps spoke about the draft that is due on March 10th for the annual report for all the sector heads. Stating that it is important to reflect on the statement of purpose and the importance in reporting what the committee does so that everyone in town can understand the initiatives through Greenwich and reporting sustainability throughout the town.

- i. What is needed from each sector is a summary (4-5 paragraphs, 10-15 accomplishments (measurable) within the past 5 years, 5-8 photos that bring this to life – make sure they are good photos) also best to reach out to the community partners for more information. This is best to be submitted through email, google, word, but anything is okay. Only content is needed – no formatting.

5. Updates (30 minutes)

a. Environmental Affairs –

- i. Ms. Moch spoke on behalf of the Transportation Task Force and the recent name change from the Bicycle Task Force. They are hopefully working on a multiuse path from Greenwich High School to Cos Cob library.
- ii. Snehal Mhatre Spoke on the lecture series the Conservation Commission is hosting. The next one is on zoom and covers invasive species on March 22nd from 7-8pm.
- iii. Ms. Cocco spoke about the conservation events in March which include a Turtle lecture and walk on the Audubon (March 25th), vernal pool walks on March 18th (10am) with a rain date on March 19th.
- iv. Ms. Cocco spoke about the need to write the Sustainability and Climate Resiliency Plan for “All of Greenwich” instead of just the “Town of Greenwich”. Community is to be a key part of this, so they are looking for stakeholder input. Currently town offices are targeted in smaller listening session and there is outreach for community listening sessions. This will be the focus of next steps.
- v. Ms. Evans spoke about how Ms. Cocco and Ms. Evans are reaching out to town departments, but it would be helpful for the committee to help with comments from the public.
- vi. Putting forth a survey is a thought as well when it comes to community outreach - example from Weston Massachusetts.

b. Committee sectors, community partners, and other Town departments as available

- i. Ms. Wasserman gave an update from the legislative sector and follow up on bills from last month. The best thing to do right now is call or email the environmental committee for the state. The individuals in the committee are strongly recommended to write a personalized email. Ms. Wasserman will send out a contact list for people in the CT environmental committee.
- ii. Ms. Dempsey spoke on their presentation for Carbon, Toxin, and Noise reduction to the board of health – awaiting approval.
- iii. Ms. Moura will be the liaison between sustainability committee and PTAC. Spoke on how the sustainability newsletter needs to be approved through school higher ups before being pushed out to families.
- iv. Ms. Klockenbrink spoke on the newsletter and the importance of families receiving it through the school. She also spoke about best methods of sharing the newsletter. Forwarding the email causes corruption, so it is important to use a link to share the newsletter rather than simply forwarding it.

6. Old Business (20 minutes)

a. Record committee vote on Artificial Turf Point Sheet

- i. This was voted to be approved electronically

b. Record committee vote to endorse Neonics bill

- i. This was voted to be approved electronically

c. Consider endorsement of Environmental Rights Amendment to the CT Constitution

- i. Ms. Ghiorse spoke about how this would have huge implications for the state in terms of environmental right – it gives everyone access to clean air/water and can have tons of positives when it comes to environmental rights

d. Other legislation to be considered for endorsement?

- e. Status report on Sustainability Award
 - i. Ms. Stone McGuigan spoke on behalf of the Sustainability award and how there have been many great nominations brought forward and spreading awareness about the award is important.
7. New Business/Next Steps
 - a. Reaching out the youth has been moved to new business for April
 - b. If something in this meeting was missed it can be added to the next month through email
8. Adjourn at 12:46pm

Next Meeting: Thursday, April 6, 2023, 11:00 A.M. by Zoom only

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