

APPROVED MINUTES
Sustainability and Enhancement Committee Meeting
March 5, 2020

Attendance: Jill Oberlander, Committee Chair; Patricia Sesto, Director of Environmental Affairs; Ashley Cole, Elizabeth Dempsey, Julie DesChamps, Cheryl Dunson, Ali Ghiorse, James Hoffman, Myra Klockenbrink, Aleksandra Moch.

1. Meeting was called to order at 8:07 a.m.
2. Committee Statement of Purpose.

Ms. Oberlander presented the Statement of Purpose that had been circulated to the committee, summarizing the changes made since the last meeting. Ms. Klockenbrink suggested some modifications, some of which were adopted. Following discussion, the Committee voted unanimously to adopt the Statement of Purpose as modified during the meeting.

3. Declaration of Sustainability.

Committee members in attendance concurred that a Declaration of Sustainability was an important Committee goal. Acceptance of the statement by other community stakeholders (Boards, Commissions, environmental advocacy groups) is also desirable. **Ms. Ghiorse, Ms. Klockenbrink and Ms. Dunson** agreed to coordinate and develop a draft declaration that could be shared before the next full Committee meeting.

4. Status Updates and Discussion of Next Steps.

Ms. Oberlander commented that many people learning about the Committee had very similar questions. She distributed a draft Frequently Asked Questions sheet summarizing such questions and proposed answers. **Committee members are asked to review the FAQs distribution** and advise of questions or comments.

There was a discussion about how to represent Committee membership and positions. Attendees generally acknowledged that individual members should not represent a position as being “of the Committee” unless the Committee voted on and adopted the position.

Committee members generally agreed to consider policy positions related to sustainability. Ms. Sesto introduced a position paper supporting creation by ordinance of an Energy Commission. Mr. Hoffman inquired about the status of energy efficiency proposals. **Mr. Hoffman agreed to review the draft position papers on an Energy Commission and to develop a proposal for consideration at the next meeting.** Ms. Klockenbrink asked whether Ms. Walsh was still working on the Power Purchase Agreements. **Director Sesto stated she would reach out to Ms. Walsh to determine the status and timeline.**

Director Sesto also introduced the possibility of preparing a position statement on either the proposed Pay As You Throw proposal or in support of a comprehensive Town waste reduction program. This position statement will be considered at the next meeting.

Questions were raised about the subcommittee structure. **Ms. Oberlander agreed to reach out to the identified sub-committee chairs** to discuss next steps.

5. Minutes

Postponed to next meeting.

6. New Business – None

7. Attendees stated that there was a desire to meet in two weeks and Ms. Oberlander agreed to schedule a room. The meeting after that is scheduled for April 2, 2020 at 8 a.m. in the Mazza Room.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 a.m.

Jill K. Oberlander
Co-Chair & Recording Secretary