

APPROVED MINUTES  
Sustainability and Enhancement Committee Meeting - VIRTUAL MEETING  
April 16, 2020

Attendance: Jill Oberlander, Committee Chair; Patricia Sesto, Director of Environmental Affairs; Ashley Cole, Elizabeth Dempsey, Julie DesChamps, Ali Ghiorse, James Hoffman, Myra Klockenbrink, Aleksandra Moch, Urling Searle, Svetlana Wasserman, Terri Brome Kutzen, Cheryl Moss.

1. Call to Order.

Meeting was called to order at 11:05 a.m. Ms. Oberlander welcomed Ms. Kutzen and Ms. Moss (both from Greenwich Community Gardens). Upon request, the Committee voted to add an agenda item to discuss the Committee's organizational structure.

2. Earth Day.

Director Sesto updated the Committee on the Town Earth Day bell-ringing and proclamation. Director Sesto will distribute a press release and asked Committee members to help publicize the bell ringing.

3. Vote on GSEC Guiding Principles.

After discussion, the Committee voted to approve the following Guiding Principles for the Committee:

**GREENWICH SUSTAINABILITY & ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

**WE:**

**ACKNOWLEDGE** our place as participants within living and interdependent ecosystems.  
**COMMIT** to sustaining, improving and restoring our natural resources, landscape and watershed on which future generations will depend.

**ENCOURAGE** the growth and development that attends a healthy economy to be rooted in the health of our natural systems.

**HONOR** *the natural function and beauty of our landscape as integral to building community and serving wellbeing.*

**ENVISION** collaboration among all members of our Greenwich community to forward responsible and enduring stewardship of water, air, land and shore.

**RECOGNIZE** a changing natural environment and seek resilient strategies to meet and adapt to inevitable challenges.

**RESPECT** diversity in all its forms: biodiversity in our landscapes, watershed and shore is what makes them resilient and diversity of representation in our process is what makes for successful outcomes.

4. Discussion of Organizational Structure.

The Committee discussed the organizational structure that was previously distributed and affirmed its desire to move forward. Key discussion points included the mutual goals of supporting and

advancing Sustainable CT and sustainable initiatives contained in the Plan of Conservation and Development. The Committee can be viewed as a communication link to bring information to the wider Greenwich community and identify program gaps.

Members suggested that the Conservation Caboodle members be invited to participate in GSEC meetings and that the Committee also reach out to RTM members. The organizational structure will be expanded to include Legislative/Advocacy efforts. **Ms. Ghiorse and Ms. Deschamps agreed to update the structure document.**

5. Status Updates and Discussion of Next Steps.

- a. Electric Vehicle Charging Stations: Selectperson Oberlander reported that the Town Hall pilot project is awaiting the go-ahead from First Selectman Camillo.
- b. Energy Commission: Director Sesto advised that the Energy Commission ordinance would be submitted for a first read in September, with an expected vote in October.
- c. Waste Diversion / Reduction: Ms. Deschamps advised that the food scrap collection pilot program was postponed. Director Sesto updated the Committee on the Pay as You Throw program status. The Committee discussed ways Town Hall and Town parks could implement waste reduction and sustainable strategies. **Director Sesto, Ms. Deschamps, and Ms. Klockenbrink agreed to discuss options before the next meeting.**
- d. Town Budget: In connection with the upcoming votes on the Town budget, the Committee supported putting out a statement advocating for reusable wares in Greenwich Public Schools facilities. **Ms. Deschamps agreed to draft a statement for Committee consideration.**
- e. Enhancement: Ms. Cole advised that the POCD Greenscape Committee met to discuss landscaping along the Post Road.

6. Minutes

Postponed to next meeting.

7. New Business – Committee members raised consideration of a GSEC logo and seal of approval.

8. Attendees stated that there was a desire to meet in three weeks and Ms. Oberlander agreed to arrange a call.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:45 p.m.

---

Jill K. Oberlander  
Co-Chair & Recording Secretary