1. Call to Order. Meeting was called to order at 12:04 p.m.

2. Minutes. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the minutes from the October 15, 2020 meetings were approved.

3. Status Updates: The Committee agreed that sector chairs would send their updates two days prior to the next upcoming meeting. Highlights from the sector status updates include:

   a. Food Sustainability: Ms. Ghiorse distributed a draft Food Systems Sector Plan to the Committee. Next Steps: Support Greenwich Conservation Commission on Sustainable CT action items; identify assets and gaps.

   b. Waste Reduction / Diversion: Ms. DesChamps reported that Waste Free Greenwich recently conducted a survey of the food scraps recycling and that, overall, residents are very satisfied with it. There would be increased participation if there was a second deposit location on the eastern side of town, or if there was curbside pickup. Ms. DesChamps reminded the Committee of the upcoming screening of the film, “Just Eat It” and a panel discussion. Waste Free Greenwich and Greenwich Recycling Advisory Board are investigating various tools to help with recycling education. See update attached. Next steps (continued from last meeting): Ms. DesChamps highlighted the need for more insight into recycling and composting at the Greenwich Public Schools and the status of Tools for Schools.

   c. Transportation: Ms. Oberlander advised that Ms. Moch and the Transportation and Air Quality Subcommittee are working on initiatives, including electric vehicle charging stations and updating the Town’s bicycle master plan. The Sustainability Committee engaged in a longer conversation about the status of the existing plan, its use as the foundation for a new plan, and obtaining community support for this project. Ms. Moch advised the subcommittee focused on air quality at its last meeting and will focus on electric vehicle charging stations at the next meeting. Next Steps: Ms. Oberlander to discuss with and Ms. Moch: (1) requirements and timetable for the Sustainable CT grant funds related to a consultant to work on the Bicycle Master Plan and options for the required local match; and (2) development of initiative to obtain community support / sign-on as co-sponsor. Follow up from last meeting: identifying projects that might qualify for a DERA (diesel emissions reduction act) grant.
d. Enhancement: Ms. Cole reported on the upcoming greenscape effort at Chestnut Alley as well as her appointment to the GHS Security Vestibule Building Committee. She suggested a number of ideas for winter community projects. A question was raised about using murals around Town as part of our enhancement efforts. **Next Steps:** Ms. Oberlander to inquire of First Selectman Camillo who is working on the murals.

e. Water and Land Use: Ms. Klockenbrink shared a photo from the recent Pomerance-Pinetum clean-up day. She continues to work on a master plan for that park. **Next steps:** Committee to discuss how to link to Ms. Klockenbrink’s articles to further raise awareness.

f. Legislative: Ms. Dempsey discussed possible scenarios for community outreach. As the Committee is a function of government, any list prepared would be subject to FOIA. It was agreed that the Sustainability Committee would put together a list of organizations in town that supported similar missions and one or two lead contacts from each organization. That way, there would be a way to conduct community outreach. The Committee also discussed outreach to the Conservation Caboodle and realtors. **Next Steps:** (1) develop community contact list; (2) draft outreach letter to Conservation Caboodle and realtors.

g. Energy: Ms. Oberlander advised that Board of Selectmen had a first read of a proposal for an Energy Committee. The second read and vote is scheduled for the November 12, 2020 BOS meeting.

h. First Selectman Waste Management Committee: Update deferred until next meeting.

4. Update on Sustainability Plan: Ms. DesChamps is waiting for submissions from sector chairs. **Next steps:** sector chairs are asked to respond to the survey distributed by Ms. DesChamps to try to advance the development of a Sustainability Plan / Summary.

5. Sustainable CT projects: Ms. Coccaro and Ms. Moch previously distributed a document identifying and summarizing potential Sustainable CT (SCT) action items in need of assistance by this Committee.

Ms. Coccaro discussed the previous 2018 SCT application for Greenwich and updates to the 2021 application. Greenwich will be reapplying for silver-status certification next year. There are a few changes to the application, including new action items, new categories, longer look-back periods, and description edits. **Next steps:** sector chairs and members to review the SCT document and set up follow-up meetings with Ms. Coccaro and Ms. Moch to discuss handing off of these actions and sharing of additional information and resources.

6. Development of Outreach Plan: see discussion above.
7. Letter dated August 13, 2020 to CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection on rejection of Material Innovation and Recycling Authority’s (“MIRA”) Annual Plan of Operations.  This item was not discussed due to timing.

8. Sustainability Committee Diversification Initiatives:  Ms. Ghiorse advised that she, Ms. DesChamps, Ms. Klockenbrink, and Ms. Wasserman met to discuss ways to diversify representation on the Sustainability Committee.  Some suggestions include:  meet with the Town Diversity Committee; develop a list of known bridge builders in town; consider bringing in an equity coach.  Next Steps:  Ms. Oberlander to follow-up on scheduling some of these meetings.  Discuss bringing in an equity coach and pursuing an equity trainer.

9. Next Steps: In addition to the items referenced above:

   a. Holdover:  Sustainability Committee outreach to the Conservation Commission (next meeting is November 5th), Department of Public Works, Planning & Zoning (re: POCD and Sustainability Plan).

   b. Holdover:  update on Town Hall’s waste reduction plans.

   c. Google Drive:  Ms. Oberlander to check with Town IT about using a Google Drive for document sharing.  Ms. Dempsey to assist.

   d. Next meeting: The proposed next meeting is: Thursday, November 19th, 2020 from 12 noon to 1:30 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

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Jill K. Oberlander
Co-Chair & Recording Secretary