

Sustainable Hanover Committee Meeting

September 12, 2012

Minutes

Attending: Yolanda Baumgartner, Susan Edwards, Julia Griffin, Chris Kenned, Larry Litten (chair), David McManus, Lyn Swett Miller, Marjorie Rogalski; Megan Shannon (Vital Communities)

To-do list

Lyn will send the description of a modified Website to Betsy Smith and consult with her about bringing it up on the Town's site.

Lyn will talk with the art teachers at the Ray, Middle and High Schools about designing banner and poster placards.

Susan will consult with Dartmouth Parking Operations regarding next year's yard sale.

Julia will make sure that the Hanover Area Chamber of Commerce is aware of the Upper Valley Sustainability Roundtable and promotes it

David will contact James Moore of SunCommon about vetting solar vendors for a Hanover program. **David** will invite a presenter on municipal solar power purchase agreements to the October meeting.

Recycling update

Susan reported that the 3rd community yard sale was the most successful yet. 78 families/groups participated. The net income was \$649. She will consult soon with Dartmouth Parking Operations about traffic flow and control for next year. We shall order a handicapped accessible toilet next year.

The Plastic Plant Pot recycling program was a great success. Six very densely packed pallets were collected over the summer. Susan will explore possible partners next year (perhaps, Transition Town White River Junction) to help assure continuity. Many Hanover residents use the program. Next year we shall display the Sustainable Hanover banner.

Julia reported that Peter has emphasized our interest in downtown recycling and composting as a condition for renewing our recycling contract with Northeast Waste. We await their response.

On October 2 a regional meeting convened by the Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission will discuss cooperative waste management possibilities, including composting (perhaps at the Hartland landfill).

Website migration update and further considerations

Lyn has not had a response from Peter regarding her proposals for modification of the Sustainable Hanover Website in conjunction with its migration to management by the Town. She will send her suggestions to Betsy and work with her to mock up a new site.

Director of Planning and Zoning replacement

Julia reported that the job description for the hiring of a new Director of Planning and Zoning is being written. Sustainability will be written into the description. Two ad hoc interview groups, one composed of Town Board and Commission representatives and one composed of interested and active citizens will be created as part of the recruiting process.

Making sustainability part of Hanover's identity

The suggestion made at the last meeting that some mention of sustainability occur on the Town Website. Julia asked that suggestions be sent to her. We discussed the possibility of having sawhorse-type sidewalk stands for sustainability posters that would pop up in various locations (the library, community center, town hall). Student-created posters would be ideal.

Conversation with Megan Shannon (Vital Communities) about regional sustainability position

No progress has been made on the proposal for a regional sustainability position, especially focused on energy saving. The practical obstacles of working across jurisdictions are severe.

Megan described the Upper Valley Sustainability Roundtable that will be held on October 16. It is co-sponsored by the New Hampshire Businesses for Social Responsibility and Vital Communities. Julia will make sure that the Hanover Area Chamber of Commerce is aware of this and promotes it. Megan will contact the social responsibility program at Tuck.

Energy initiatives--solar buying

Larry reported that Norwich has had a very successful program of solar installations conducted by ReKnew Energy. They are working on a second phase. Larry had been unsuccessful in his efforts to talk to James Moore of SunCommon about vetting potential vendors. David says he knows him well and will pursue contact. The October meeting will include a discussion of a municipal power purchase agreement; David will invite a presenter.

SHC leadership

David agreed to chair the committee when Larry's term on the committee concludes this month.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry Litten, chair