

FINAL

**Sustainable Hanover Committee Meeting**

January 16, 2013, 8:30-10:00 AM

Town Hall, Hanover, NH,

**Next Meeting Feb. 6, 2013**

**8:30-10:00 @ Town Hall**

**Attendees:** David McManus (Chair), Chris Kennedy, Lyn Miller, Mary Ann Cadwallader (Recorder), Susan Edwards, Yolanda Baumgartner, Amanda Charland, Julia Griffin (Town Manager),

**Guest:** Bill Howard

**Minutes Approved:** December 12, 2012 Minutes approved.

**Action Items:**

- Chris, would you add reminders to the calendar that we must submit budget items to Peter in November for his presentation at February hearings.

- David will look into a Twitter account (Chris S. may have a twitter account.)

- Lyn will forward the 5-6 areas—emissions reduction, energy conservation, waste reduction, composting/recycling, land stewardship, transportation—we've worked from in the past.

From December's Meeting, not covered in January:

- Lyn/Chris S. will send a revised marketing plan by email before the next meeting.

- Chris S. will have a beta App. done by the next meeting,

- Peter will call NE Waste and see if the amount of recycling has increased since Election Day.

**Populating SHC 2013 Calendar:** (Chris K.) Chris has created a color coded planning calendar which includes holidays, school vacations, Dartmouth's terms, meeting times for Town Committees, SHC's sponsored events like the Hanover Yard Sale, Film series, Earth week, etc., and regional events sponsored by organizations like the Coop, SERGE, and Vital Communities. He will add events when requested by committee members. Perhaps this calendar could include the information on the Curbside Recycling one and take its place on the Town Website. We should discuss whether we want to ask to be linked to the Chamber Calendar.

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Chris, would you add reminders to the calendar that we must submit budget items to Peter in November for his presentation at February hearings.

The Committee still needs to put dates to these ideas if they plan to make them operational:

- To have an annual committee retreat (early in December or January) to work on the initiative for the year.
- To organize a meeting with others active in sustainability issues to hear what they are doing and to announce our annual initiative. We need partners. This year's initiative is in the area of energy savings in transportation. (3 hours some afternoon in April, Earth Week?) We would hope to get participants ideas and support for our September kick-off.
- To schedule an Annual Meeting on Town Sustainability and ask Vital Communities to help. Is this the same as above?
- To sponsor an informational meeting with vendors of solar panel installations for interested residents. Julia has had several inquiries and Lyn has given 3 tours of her solar array in the last month! (Saturday AM, **February?**). Permitting and subsidy information would be made available by the Town and we could use the event to advertise our activities.

Julia thought that the high school gym and cafeteria might be available between basketball and track seasons. The Black Center was thought to be big enough for the first year, though.

If we proceed someone needs to contact SERGE and Energy Emporium (Kimberly Clark) for a list of vendors to invite. Julia could supply the names of most of our residents who've installed solar systems. They could be invited to share their experience. Someone would need to secure the Black Center and do the publicity for the event.

**Electric Charging Station:** (Julia) Portsmouth's was funded by the local Nissan Dealer. Electric charging stations cost about \$15,000. Don Ware is asking our local car dealerships that sell electric hybrids if they would be interested in funding a charging station in the city's parking garage.

**HUD grant:** Vicki Davis (Regional Planning Commission) has a HUD grant to investigate regional waste recycling. The possibility of regional composting and hazardous household waste disposal at Hartford's new landfill is being investigated. Peter and Julia are attending a meeting to look into a pilot for composting downtown restaurant food waste. Bob, the composter for the schools and the Coop, has reached capacity.

**Mission:** Yolanda presented a beautifully formatted mission statement that defined 'sustainability' and explained our mission in a sidebar. After expressing our pleasure, we

found out that the Town website won't be able to handle the sidebar. The EPA's sustainability definition can become part of a glossary that would be a click away, but some of the explication of our mission may need to be incorporated into it.

Indeed, a sidebar to the Mission conversation quickly developed about how best to communicate with our residents and keep up with social media advancements. In general, we realized that there must be a committed person on Town payroll if we are to keep up with advancements in social networking. So at this time it's best to separate information from social media and use the Town website. David will look into a twitter account. Lyn will continue to work with Betsy on merging our old website, which she so generously ran when her time allowed, with the Town's website.

We returned to our discussion of how to present our goals so that they are both measureable and understandable. Most agreed that our timeframe needs to be longer than a year at the Goal level. Numbers could be lodged in the Action Plan, rather than the Goals. The language of the 3% solution that Lyn and Chris S. are developing for the transportation initiative might be used in some way there. We'll need to state our agenda for the year, which supports our goals. Would it become the Action Plan for 2013 with an expectation that we would write one each year?

**Our next meeting, February 6**, will be devoted to Goals, Action Plan, and Responsibilities as it's difficult to move forward on activities without having a framework.

Lyn will forward the 5-6 areas—emissions reduction, energy conservation, waste reduction, composting/recycling, land stewardship, transportation—we've worked from in the past.

**Motion passed** to adopt the 5 areas to help us define our goals.

**Notes from December's Meeting Apropos Goal Statement Draft work:**

(While I stated that I believed our Mission concerned only town residents, our Minutes do not agree):

Our mission deals with the whole Hanover community, more than with just the Town's buildings and operations; therefore we need a percentage for 2030, rather than the stated net-zero, which would be impossible for the community to achieve. It was also felt that we needed to pick a global model with which to align. This would be shown in a sidebar.

**Additional notes from the December Minutes concerning who we're including in our Mission:** Lyn walked us through a marketing plan for our transportation Initiative. David suggested changing 'households' to 'residents'. The Committee discussed Dartmouth's involvement and how to include those who commute through Hanover (adding to our emissions), but who don't live here. The latter could be addressed by a regional organization or perhaps us, after we have our program in place. Zip codes will separate community data in any case. **This year we will have to concentrate on**

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**Hanover residents**, reaching them through the schools and neighborhood meetings around the town's Master Plan. We must inoculate Town residents with sustainable ideas. E.g. As they plan forward, they should encourage the sequestering of carbon by growing trees, with woodlots, conserving electricity by turning off the lights at night.

**Transportation Initiative:** Chris S.'s website development is still in process. The suggested roll out for the initiative, its soft launch, could happen during Earth Week, when we would ask 100 residents to begin using the website. By that time the Committee should have started using it and have some feedback. In September the schools' students and parents would be enlisted.

**Winter Films Series & Eco-Challenge invite from Barbara Duncan:**  
<http://www.ecochallenge.org/>

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Ann Cadwallader, Recorder

*Minutes approved 2/6/13*