

Sustainable Hanover Committee Meeting Minutes

August 17, 2016

Members attending: Yolanda Baumgartner, Stowe Beam (appointment pending), Mary Ann Cadwallader, Mary Donin, Susan Edwards, Julia Griffin (Town Manager), Peter Kulbacki (Public Works), Larry Litten, Marjorie Rogalski (by phone).

Guests: Judi Colla (Upper Valley Sierra Club)

To-dos from the meeting

Everyone who will be in town should e-mail Susan and volunteer to help at the yard sale.

Peter, Stowe, and Marjorie will meet to explore composting options.

Agenda

Approve June Minutes

New member

Web update (Mary)

Retreat follow up

1. Spring yard sale (Susan, Mary)
2. Composting (Marjorie)
3. Other

Sustainable Landscape funding (Larry)

Community Yard sale (Susan)

Recruiting (Marjorie)

Emissions Study (Pete)

Green Power Challenge ENH (Yolanda)

Renewable database, Building requirement (Marjorie, Yolanda, Chris)

Ready for 100 update (Judi Colla)

Yolanda Baumgartner presiding

Minutes

The minutes from the June meeting were approved with the correction of the spelling of Yolanda Baumgartner's name; no minutes were taken at the July retreat.

New member

Stowe Beam was introduced, and welcomed, as a new member of the committee; his appointment will occur at the next meeting of the Selectmen.

Website

Committee members were urged to send any updates to the SHC Website to Mary Donin.

Retreat follow-up

Susan and Mary will work on a spring “yard sale” that will take place at residences with a map or directory of locations.

Stowe, Marjorie, and Susan will meet with Peter to explore local composting options. Marjorie described a very impressive transfer station she has been visiting in Chatham, Massachusetts.

Landscape

The Sustaining Landscapes group met with town staff. Judy Reeve, Kelly Dent, and Larry Litten met with Peter about initiating work for a rain garden on School Street. The full group will meet again in September.

Recycling (yard sale)

The Community Yard Sale has 103 registrants (10 pending) against a total of 132 spaces. Advertising will now shift to buyers from a focus on recruiting sellers.

Volunteers are needed from 7:45-10 and from 1-2.

Recruiting

Marjorie has posted a notice seeking recruits to the Vital Communities listserv and will do the same for the Hanover listserv.

Emissions Report

Peter has been replicating the study of emissions conducted by Charles Sullivan in 2008 with 2005 data. Data from 2015 show that even with increased energy demand (more equipment at the water reclamation facility, longer operating hours at the library), emissions have been reduced by 9% due to many efficiency initiatives. Buildings are still the largest source of emissions. Heat pumps and LED lights are being installed around town. All traffic signals are now LED. Peter will provide a report to the Board.

Judi suggested that the annual town report feature these findings. A dashboard-like presentation at the front of the report and on the Web site would get more attention.

C-PACE (commercial property assessed clean energy)

Hanover signed a C-PACE agreement today. Julia sent a letter to businesses and non-profits inviting participation. St. Thomas Episcopal Church has expressed an interest.

Hanover Green Energy Challenge

The program accounted for ~2.5 million kWh in the past 12 months, approximately half from New Hampshire renewable energy certificates. A proposal for the renewal of the program will contain 12, 18, and 24 month options, and various mixes of regional and national sourcing. Yolanda has sent a notice to the program’s largest subscribers.

Ready for 100

The launch event will take place today on the Hanover Green. SHC members are urged to show up for the photo.

Peter, Yolanda, and Rob Houseman (Hanover's new Director of Planning) attended a training session in San Francisco with Sierra Club support. Peter reported that many promising technologies and programs were presented; the principal obstacle is the utility companies and their puppets on the public utility commissions. Therefore, off-grid solutions appear to hold the most promise. A report from the training session, including lists of resources, is forthcoming.

Allie Samuel has been appointed as the director of the local campaign.

A stepping stone celebration will occur with early October.

Prepared by Larry Litten.