



Saturday, January 6, 2024 9:00 A.M. Zoom Meeting & Americal Civic Center

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Melissa Eusden, Chair Tiana Veldwisch, Vice Chair Robin Greenberg, Clerk

Steffin Spears Lillian Guinther

Julie Smith-Galvin, Town Council rep

Sharon Daly, WMGLD rep

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:** 

Christina Olivieri Chris Lewis

Joe Conway, DPW rep
Ann Waitt, DPW rep proxy
Amy Leeman, School Comm. rep
Nate Chines, Youth Council rep
Eric Cohen, Student Liaison
Russell Jackson, Student Liaison
Teagon Norton, Student Liaison

### ---- TOPICS OF DISCUSSION -----

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:10 a.m. by M. Eusden.

The meeting is being recording and limited closed captioning is available.

Public Participation

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ESC 2024 Initiatives T. Veldwisch led the ESC committee in working session to brainstorm ideas and develop priorities for ESC's 2024 initiatives and subcommittees. Subcommittees established with potential tasks/initiatives are:

- Community Engagement & Outreach
  - o Community engagement and education
  - o Sustainability meetups
  - o Support passage of MBTA zoning bylaw
  - o Advertise / inform town of ESC sponsored events via channels like Item, flyers, etc.
  - Remain source of info on sustainability practices and news via social media etc.
  - o Publish an environment report / scorecard
  - o Events:
    - "Fix-it" cafe (collab w/ Waste Reduction)
    - EV Showcase annually
    - Presence at town events like Farmers Market, Festival at the Lake, Town Day, New Resident 101
    - Earth Day event



- Education series at the library ex: how your food choices impact environment
- Have some signature event put on by ESC
- Community Yard Sale (collab w/ Waste Reduction)
- o Tour Black Earth Compost facility
- o Periodic (quarterly?) litter cleanup event

# • Green Spaces

- o Small gardens in unused spaces/ Find a waste space to revitalize into green space
- o Continue support of ConComm's Trail Steward program
- o Some kind of gardening program
- o Bat Boxes
- Plant more trees / native trees / work with WMGLD tree planting program
- o Protect trees

## Waste Reductions

- Support special recycling drives, like candy wrappers, X-mas lights
- o Work with town to expand recycling at Pit (materials and time available)
- o Steps to improve recycling
- o Support compliance of bag and Styrofoam ban
- o Increase household Black Earth Compost participation (hit 500)
- o Pumpkin composting
- o Waste reduction program in schools

#### • Climate Action Plan

- o Do Climate Action Plan with residential guidance
- o Apply for Green Community funding and ensure we're meeting requirements to continue to receive funds
- o Keep abreast of state energy goals / requirements
- o Understand impact of DPU 20-80 Order (future of natural gas) on town and come up with plan w/ WMGLD to address requirements
- o Increase solar installations on schools / municipal buildings
- o Work toward getting a sustainability director
- o Encourage more students to ride bus / walk / bike to school
- Discourage car idling
- Get involved in transit issues micro-transit, bike/ped plan, MBTA advocacy
- o Municipal fleet electrification
- o School bus electrification
- o Car charging infrastructure
- o Use MVP and GHG study tools to plan town initiatives
- o Nature based climate solutions

#### Green Business

- o Green business program
- o Recognition of green businesses
- Support businesses making changes through coaching, shared purchasing, etc.

o Encourage businesses to electrify fleets

**Next Meeting** The next regular Environmental Sustainability Committee meeting is scheduled for

Thursday, February 8, 2024, at 7pm on Zoom.

Committee Meeting Adjournment

 $\label{eq:condition} \textbf{J. Smith-Galvin motioned to adjoin. T. Veldwisch second. \ Meeting adjourned at}$ 

11:45 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Greenberg, Clerk

Attachments: -