

Sustainability Committee
March 11, 2020 Meeting at Minot-Sleeper Library
Minutes

Attendees: Nancy Dowey, Brittany Overton, Lauren Therriault, Bailey and Jow Caristi, Karen Boyd, Elsa McConolgue, Janet Cavanough, Herb D'Arcy, Tom Keegan, and Dilys Morrison

Meeting called to order 6:30pm

Motion to accept meeting minutes from February 24, 2020 set by Brittany Overton, seconded by Karen Boyd.

Book club the 6th- The Uninhabitable Earth at MSL brought up by Dilys Morrison.

Nancy brought up funding for projects? Should we ask for money

Joe said that budget had \$50,000 saved by no recycling. Put \$1 for keeping the line item in the budget.

NERC having a conference in May we could ask for money for us to attend.

Herb asked about the specifics of the charge from when the committee was founded. Brittany read the charge. We as a committee research and recommend and the select board will decide what gets taken on.

Lakes Region has conferences and seminars ask Dave Jeffers.
Nancy suggested we table the discussion of the budget.

Nancy researched recycling. Wyane from the select board met with Nancy and wants to recycle, not single stream.

Dilys Morrison said an article passed in Alexandria yesterday to buy land and enhance the transfer station. Thoughts about combining forces for towns to take on more. A year or two before the new facility is built and moved. Regional recycling opportunities. Make us think about updates that won't be outdated in a few years.

Ask Mark Bucklin about how that will look. Alexandria and Bristol need to talk, selectmen, town administrators? Get that going before we decide what to do in Bristol. Let's recommend that Bristol and Alexandria Officials discuss possible partnerships so we can move forward. Nancy talked to Megan from Gilford about the recycling. NRRA and Recycling Associates buy the recycling from Gilford. Town is already a member of this. Have a \$5,000 grant that you can apply for by November.

Nancy and Karen are registered from the free webinar next week.

Tom Keegan asked Staples about taking lithium batteries and ink cartridges. Asking to remove himself from junk mail lists. CFL light bulbs need to be saved until Hazardous waste day.

Brittany wants us to add something to the town website for telling people what's being recycled and accepted at the Transfer Station.

Janet Cavanaugh said that the cardboard at the transfer station is getting filled quickly,

Elsa McConolgoe spoke to Mr. Hoiriis about getting the NRHS students and teachers on board with composting there. Working on an official plan to get it going. Elsa will talk to cafeteria staff. Fixing up the patio where the composting and subpod would potentially be located. Looking into grants for subpods. Small one was \$250, Elsa was thinking of doing a can drive or getting a grant.

Herb would like to talk to the vendors who make the food at the schools. Nancy suggested asking the state nursery for a tree or trees. Bob Hardy works there and should be contacted about a tree.

Herb spoke to Hannaford, Chris O'Leary: talked about energy efficiency. Maybe solar panels on the roof, talking at the corporate level about that. Food that expires that day gets taken off shelves and donated to pantries and senior centers. Other unusable food given to a pig farm. Cardboard gets wrapped and sent to the corporate center. Said you can ask for paper bags but customers don't. He also spoke to Greg Wagner at West Shore Marine. The produce 2 tons of shrink wrap a year, was recycled but not anymore. He'll talk to Freudenberg next week.

Could the town of Bristol ban plastic bags? Hannaford can't ban it because it's a corporation. Could paper be the default?

Janet recommended Herb talk to Aubuchon Hardware. We have an open communication line with Chris. Karen asked if the selectboard could make a motion to ban plastic bags? Something to encourage people to bring reusable bags. Tom suggested reaching out to Vincent Migliore and Ned Gordon about a bill. Joe recommended doing this at the town level. Present ideas to the selectboard. Maybe ask about a charge for using plastic bags like stores in cities do.

Names for the committee were discussed. Branding ideas. Stickers for businesses. Bristol Environmental Sustainability Team (BEST), Sustainable Bristol, an/or Bristol Sustainability Committee Tagline: Creating a bright today and green tomorrow. Agreed on Sustainable Bristol.

Les Dion, ask her about community engagement and getting kids on board. Homestead and JP Morison. Dunkin Donuts.

Earth day plan? April 22nd, Wednesday. Alexandria lady will ask about Plymouth Earth Day Celebration. Wait and see with possible cancelation of the event(s) due to canceling large events for CORVID-19.

First Newspaper article; Wayne writing it.

Start a facebook page and start a column in Newfound Landing. Lauren Therriault will start writing ideas, tips and get our name out. Start a google document with dates and ideas for what to write. Drop Dead deadline is Tuesday at noon, try to have it in by Monday. Brendon and Dawn, Brittany will send the emails in the google document. Introduce the committee in the next paper.

Tom Keegan talked about Household Hazardous Waste (HHD). Lakes region gets grants for HHD. Tom asked others to take over and he would help out. August 1st, 2020. 8:30-12 sharp. 4 meetings prior. Write an article for NL reminding people. Lakes Region Planning in Meredith. Tom will email the dates of meetings, said it doesn't have to be someone from Bristol.

Ask Nick how Bristol FB page was created? Ask him to create a page. Lauren will be in charge of it for continuity. Report articles for the newspaper. Agree on what to post and talk to Nick about social media policy.

Next meeting April 21st 6:30 at Town Offices.

Herb made a motion to adjourn at 8:03, Joe seconded the motion.

Action Items:

Ask the selectboard about voting to ban plastic bags?

Talk to Ned and Vincent about laws banning bags?

Nancy: ask Wyane about his thoughts on this.

Elsa: ask NRHS Art and Computer teachers about the logo for the group.

Lauren: write an article for Newfound Landing. Create a document with dates and ideas for others to add to.

Brittany: Ask Nick about starting a FB page and social media policy.

All: think about social media policy.

Nancy: call town office about the next meeting.