07/05/2022 Minutes for Sustainability Team Special Meeting

Meeting called to order at 7:09

Present Theresa Govert, Greg Coleman, Edwina Trentham, Adam Bristol, George Wilauer, and Amalia Shaltiel. Also attending Liam Rimas - Fellow from RiverCOG.

Agenda approved – Motion by Theresa Govert, Seconded by Edwina Trentham. Corrections of numbers and date of next meeting discussed

Minutes of special meeting of May 02 2022 Approved – Motion by Greg Coleman, Seconded by Theresa Govert.

unfinished Business:

Team Reports:

Edwina Trentham reported on an article submitted to the East Haddam Events Magazine about the arts in East Haddam and plans to expand poetry in East Haddam through locating local poets and having poetry readings. Included poem by local poet Gaynell May. Submitted Before deadline of July 1st. Discussion ensued on documenting the arts in our community.

George Willauer: Brought up question whether the town has fulfilled the need for affordable housing with the the acceptance of the AHP by P&Z in conjunction with RiverCOG and that all that is left is to formulate it according to SustainableCT requirements. We agreed that Amalia will upload documents and Liam will look them over to make sure they are correct.

Mr. Willauer also initiated discussion on timeline of application and points available. We can get credit for actions going back 3 years and sometimes more for rolling credit. The Town has more than 400 point available for completed actions that need to be gathered and uploaded by August 20th for Bronze certification of 200 pts. Once that is accomplished, we can move at a more leisurely pace to achieve Silver Certification next year.

Adam Bristol: Invasive Species. Researched and found study by CT Agricultural Station out of New Haven of all aquatic species in Moodus Reservoir. Also referenced UConn invasive plant list of Connecticut to make fact sheets. Discussion on how to distribute fact sheets. Mention of Moodus Reservoir Preservation Group. Conservation Commission, Friends of Machimoodus and Sunrise State Park. Question of how the town supports partnering organizations and expansion of information on town website.

Adam Bristol also reported on Pollinator Pathways: Gathered information on pollinator pathways staggered native flowers that will bloom. Discussion of current pollinator garden and possible expansions to other areas, including use of community garden.

As David Oakes was not present Amalia brought up the possibility of a mentoring action which David could initiate as representative of a town that has already fulfilled it's Bronze Certification.

Theresa Govert: Met with Kayle Lopez who was not present and reported on the impressive work that Ms. Lopes has been doing meeting with the many different stakeholders involved in the Composting project. Brainstormed on how to branch out. They worked on survey and discussed the equity

component of composting and education opportunities and initiation letters to the editor from people who use the composting program.

Ms. Govert also mentioned the possibility of a source of support for the Sustainability Team from the State nip redemption fund. East Haddam received around $6000 from the 5 cent redemption of nip sales for half a year. The funds are meant to be used for environmental purposes and Ms. Govert will talk with Ms. Hainse about the plans for the use of those funds. This will be Ms. Govert's focus. Ms. Govert will also potentially help to put together the framework of town approved initiatives suggested by SustainableCT.

Amalia: Article to the East Haddam News is published introducing the Sustainability Team and its mission to the town. Discussion of other articles such as the composting article and a call to poets will follow.

Ms. Shaltiel discussed sending the action descriptions to people we want to partner with, such as Gary Wilson from the Conservation Committee and Will Brady of the East Haddam Historic District Committee.

Ms. Shaltiel also reported on an anticipated PowerPoint presentation to the East Haddam Economic Development Committee at their meeting on Thursday July 7th. Also tried to meet with Toni from Youth and Family services about becoming a liaison for homelessness in our town. Requested Theresa to initiate that process of homelessness liaison in our town. Talked about streamlining receiving information from Mr. Ventres and giving David Oakes the task of working with the facilities manager.

Liam Rimas: Looking through Events Magazines for possible actions. Also, will report what supporting documents are needed for composting program. Discussion on POCD.

Equity Action: Ms. Shaltiel mentioned what is needed for composting project and for farmstand project. Suggested waiting with Affordable housing project.

New Business: No new business

No public comment

Next meeting August 2, 2022

Call for last comments: Ms. Shaltiel talked about urgency of reaching the action goal by Submission Deadline of August 23rd which will be topic of August meeting. Liam will not be there for last 2 weeks.

Adjournment 7:56: Edwina moved, George seconded