MINUTES
SUSTAINABILITY TEAM MEETING
TUESDAY, Nov. 14, 2023
ON-LINE MEETING (Committee)
VIA YOUTUBE LIVE (Public)
7:00PM

1. Call to Order – roll call - Meeting called to order by Amalia Shaltiel at 7:08. Present Theresa Govert, Tanya Bourgoin, Amalia Shaltiel, Kayle Lopez, David Oakes

2. Approval of Agenda – Motion to approve by Tanya Bourgoin, Seconded by Theresa Govert. Agenda approved.

3. Acceptance of Minutes: Meeting of Oct 3rd, 2023 – Motion by Kayle Lopez, Seconded by Theresa Govert. Minutes accepted unanimously.

4. Unfinished Business
    a. Administrative changes and reorganization of Team – Theresa Govert is resigning from the team as she is starting a new job as chief of staff for the chair of the public utility regulatory authority. Tanya Bourgoin will replace Theresa as Selectperson and will move into Theresa's position as nominal chair of the Sustainability Team. Amalia Shaltiel will continue as Secretary and will run the meetings. Ms. Bourgoin will assess her commitment and role as she moves into her new roles. The team needs another Democratic member to fill Ms. Govert's slot and another Independent or Republican member to fill the 10th slot. Ms. Bourgoin will check with Joe Corbett if he wants to join.
    b. Energy Audits and Heat Pumps campaign grant – Ms. Shaltiel reported that the grant from Eversource for our energy campaign was approved by Eversource. They have sent us the MOU document. Ms. Shaltiel or more likely Jesse Scott will move forward with the approval process from the town end, working with Irene Haines and Tanya Bourgoin. Once approved we will have $20,000 to run a campaign to encourage people to do energy audits, mostly targeting low income residents who will get free energy audits. We will also approach higher income residents who can get an energy audit for $75. We will find contractors who will do the audits. Eversource can supply a list of contractors without recommendations. We will also be exploring and giving information about heatpumps. Our baseline for audits is only 8 people. M s. Shaltiel went into more details about what the campaign entailed, such as a website, literature, outreach and a campaign name. The reason for the campaign is to reduce our overall carbon footprint. Heatpumps will reduce our overall need for fossil fuel. Jesse Scott will lead the campaign and will need a couple of team members to join him for that campaign. Ms. Govert suggested a call out to the community to see if anyone wanted to help with the campaign. Ms. Bourgoin suggested involving other agencies such as the food bank and the Senior Center.
    c. Report on workshops and initiatives – Still looking for venue for Green your Clean. Scarecrows for Halloween went well. Kayle Lopez. Donated the composting scarecrow to the town for prop for next year. Christmas in the Village, Dec. 5th we will probably not have a presence.
    Ms. Shaltiel also mentioned another Sustainability Team initiative we might take on which is collecting plastic bags to trade them into a trex bench. A question of storage came up for 500 pds of bags.
    d. Media – Ms. Shaltiel reported that Matt Shea could not attend the meeting but has created a Youtube channel. We need to upload videos on to it. Ms Shaltiel suggested that Tanya Bourgoin create a video of the Green your Clean to upload. Kayle Lopez will reach out to Nancy Balleck about creating composting videos after the holidays. She will reach out to Matt to use the composting

videos from the workshop. We also still need to connect our Facebook with our Instagram which Matt will look into.

e. Team Reports

David Oakes will reach out to John Olin for the attendees and who the represented for the equity tool kit for the Climate Resilience Building Workshop and he will write it up according to the template he used in Bristol. Ms. Shaltiel also would like to get the survey that was done before the workshop for another 10 pts. Mr. Oakes also reported about the Sustainable CT awards ceremony and the American Mural Project which the Venue. Mr. Oakes mentioned that Adam Wenchel who was the moderator for the CRB Workshop was Sustainable CT person of the year. Ms. Shaltiel added the importance of personal networking in such venues and the push towards regional collaboration. She also got more swag for team members and to hand out in events. She also mentioned that we can create our own T-shirts with Sustainable CT logos.

Tanya Bourgoin – Will learn how to connect the Sustainability Team with the BOS

Kayle Lopez – Is continuing to collect food scraps. Ms. Shaltiel would is interested in seeing what can be done to help Ms. Lopez as a small business that is involved in Sustainable practices.

Theresa Govert – Reported the Broadband first series of conversations that went really well. They need 60% of households to sign up. They are at 300 out of 2000. They will start tabling outside of Shagbark, holding another community conversation and door knocking. Ms. Shaltiel volunteered to help as the Sustainability Team will be using the project as an Equity toolkit as we have permission from Sustainable CT to use this initiative as an action.

Amalia Shaltiel – Will meet with Jess LeClaire to see which actions can be opened for more points. We need 150 pts. and we have them but need to finish many up. She will be working on the Energy Campaign

f. Volunteers and Liaison reports - Non

5. New Business
    a. New Initiatives – Kayle Lopez asked that we change the meeting day.

6. Audience of Citizens – No Audience of Citizens.

7. Next meeting Dec. 5th, 2023 at 7:00 pm via zoom

8. Adjournment – Ms. Shaltiel thanked Theresa Govert. Ms. Govert will continue on volunteer list and will help with Broadband updates and Equity narrative. Ms. Lopez made a motion to adjourn seconded by Ms. Shaltiel. Adjournment at 7:56.