

MINUTES

BRUNSWICK RECYCLING AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

May 23, 2023

Brunswick Town Hall – Room 206

The meeting was called to order by Chair Jamie Ecker at 4:41 PM.

Members present: Rep Poppy Arford (Zoom), David Costello, Jamie Ecker (Chair), Shelley Raymond, Tom Rumpf (Zoom), Steven Weems, Stephen Wood, Karen Topp, Dieuwke (Zuka) Zolas

Town personnel present: Jay Astle (Director of Public Works)

Public present: Bill Good

Legislative Updates

Poppy Arford introduced Art Bell, Representative from Yarmouth, who gave an update on several environmental bills in the current legislative session.

Administrative & Brief Updates

Approval of April 2023 Minutes – Rumpf/Topp, unanimous moved by Tom Rumpf, seconded by Karen Topp. Approved unanimously by those present.

New Committee Handbook – A new Committee handbook was sent out to Committee members by Jamie last week. The handbook was spearheaded by Town Council to get documentation in place to provide committees with operational guidance. The Handbook should be reviewed by all R&S Committee members.

Climate Action Task Force Update

Tom Rumpf and Jamie Ecker provided an update on the first meeting of the CAP Task Force. There are 9 members, including Jamie & Tom. The target date to have the Climate Action plan completed is January 2024. The emissions inventory is in progress and almost complete. The Task Force meetings are public and R&S Committee members can join.

Potential Green Expo, Discussion

The Committee discussed the possibility of a “green expo” in relation to the Climate Action Plan. An energy efficiency/electrification event could be in combination with green expo. Jamie will talk with Ashley about feedback from other committees on other events.

Climate Action Mandate, Discussion & Vote

Steven Weems introduced the Climate Action Mandate item. In 2019, the Town Council passed a Climate Change Resolution unanimously. This included potential follow-up steps but no specific required actions. Therefore, members of this Committee have drafted a complementary Climate Action Mandate (sent out by Jamie via email), thinking it could be referred to the Climate Action Task Force as an item to discuss.

A motion was moved by Steve Weems, and seconded by Tom Rumpf, to forward the Draft Climate Action Mandate to the Task Force for consideration as one action to recommend to the Town Council. Approved unanimously by those present.

Solid Waste Committee Updates – Wood/Astle

- Jay Astle shared updated first quarter waste collection information
- Jay also gave an update on the EPR (extended producer responsibility) program and his recent meeting with the team leading that state-wide implementation
- *A discussion on the Ecomaine Kick-off Event was postponed until a future meeting*

Upcoming Events / News You Can Use

- Falmouth's Climate Action Plan is being approved soon and will be publicly available
- A concern was raised about the Committee's liaisons from the Town Council. Jamie will reach out to them to check in.

Public Comment:

- Bill Good thanked the Committee for their work

Adjournment: Upon a motion made by David Costello and seconded by Tom Rumpf, the Committee voted unanimously to adjourn at 5:56 pm.