Bristol Sustainability Committee Meeting Notes 10/20/2020

Attendees:
- Herb D’arcy
- Nancy Dowey
- Janet Metcalf
- Lauren Therriault
- Brittany Overton

Notes:
- Approve minutes from last meeting?
  o Janet moved
  o Herb seconded
  o Approved unanimously
- Debrief from Fall Sustainability Fair
  o Well attended
  o Generally positive feedback
  o 12 new newsletter signups
  o Janet: glad we did it, even though at the last minute I had suggested that we cancel. Folks were really excited and interested. Vendors really liked it. Set the stage for some kind of spring event.
  o Nancy: Katie from Re-Imagine is already looking forward to future events!
  o All the photos are on google drive: https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1mrNLxm1aaSSSR6XblbWSKCDhiNqhms5q?usp=sharing
  o We are guessing 60-70 people attended
  o Did we reach out to press? The local reporter went out of business. We did reach out to NHPR
  o Jamie spoke to Henry Herndon from Clean Energy NH and he mentioned that other communities are doing stuff as well
    ▪ He said that lots of other communities are doing similar work
    ▪ Jamie will stay in touch and try to learn more about what other communities are doing and will see if there are opportunities to share information and resources
- Recycling Subcommittee:
  o Waiting to hear from Don – he is out of town
  o Next step: look at funding
  o Nick is sick and has been busy, but offered to meet with our recycling subcommittee
  o Janet will follow up
  o It is possibly going to be a warrant article in March – still tbd.
  o Don is look at if there is revenue, then it won’t be a burden on taxpayers. If he is unable to do this, then we may need to do a Petition Warrant and bring the same proposal to the March meeting from the community not from the select board.
  o But it’s preferable to go through the select board if possible.
- Newsletter:
  o Needs to talk about recycling! Jamie forgot to mention it and it was a huge oversight
Janet says to mention everything we’re working on since we’re doing a lot
Jamie will make sure the group gets a chance to review one week beforehand to
add events and review quickly – to prevent future mistakes
- Our contact information: we need to add it to our website
  o Brittany will add our contact information to the website
- Thursday: Conversation with the Rotary
  o What to discuss?
  o Collaboration opportunities
  o Brittany suggests:
    ▪ Invite them to share where their interests lie
    ▪ We’re looking for partnerships and some of the things we’re thinking of
doing.
      • Then turn it around on them and just ask them: we’re excited to
        hear from you, what areas of sustainability are the most
        interesting to you? What would you want to get involved in?
      • How might they envision working with us?
  o Janet:
    ▪ The backdrop of everything that we’re doing is communicating and
      reaching out to the community
    ▪ We are building collaboration with the community
    ▪ If we can work out a way for them to participate and be a part of this, that
      would be awesome.
    ▪ Recycling: how to make this an issue the community is more informed
      about
    ▪ All of our projects are dealing with how to communicate about topics
      related to sustainability with the community
    ▪ Marketing/outreach
  o Nancy:
    ▪ When you think about the fair, a lot of folks paid for stuff out of pocket
    ▪ Mailings, posters, outreach all cost money
- Next Projects:
  o Reach out to businesses- what do they see as their role in making Bristol more
    sustainable? And what are they already doing?
  o Continuing recycling work
  o Monthly recordings and discussions is still ongoing
    ▪ 10/26: solar talk (Jamie & Paul)
    ▪ November: eating, cooking with foods, cooking in ways that are
      sustainable
    ▪ December: sustainable gift options. Brittany will talk to Paula at the
      library.
  o Reaching out to businesses—Nancy wants to do this.
    ▪ Herb says we’ll learn more about this at the Rotary meeting
  o Brittany—there are probably strategies out there for groups who want to work
    with businesses
    ▪ Green Certifications for businesses?
    ▪ Bristol Sustainability Committee certification?
  o Book Club – Jamie will spearhead
- Brittany has link for interlibrary loan program
- Brittany can help coordinate
  - Movie Screening
    - PBS has a POV series on how to do virtual film screenings
      - Easiest option possibly
      - Plus there are some discussion questions we can use
  - BES has the centennial coming up
    - Zero waste event?
    - Composting at the school?
  - Approach with the school
    - Ways to engage students?
    - Table for now
  - Advocacy work and how political we want to get.
    - For instance: do we want to advocate for solar panels to not increase property value and therefore taxes
    - Nancy says we can be issue oriented without being political
    - Janet agrees. Our job is to educate and disseminate information
    - Nancy and Herb agrees as well.
    - As a committee we’re advocates for these issues, but we’re not lobbyists.
  - Earth Day cleanup
    - Nancy will work on
    - Janet will help
  - Seed bomb thing on earth day
  - Electric car charging station
    - Brittany will spearhead
  - New Pemi-Baker trail?
  - Community Garden
    - A pause was put on it due to Covid
    - Brittany will ask Nick about it
    - Janet is interested in this and will help once we have a better sense for where things are at
  - Invite families to take part – a continuous cleanup – Brittany will spearhead
    - “Adopt a road” and/or “adopt a park” campaign
    - Kick off at Earth Day and keep it going from there

- New Members:
  - Nancy is reaching out to a new person
  - Will check back in with the group at the next meeting

- Future Meetings:
  - Moving to Mondays
  - Trying a monthly schedule for a few months over the winter
  - Next meeting is Monday 11/16

- File sharing? What makes the most sense?
  - Google drive is what we’re using so far
  - Brittany will set up a quick training for anyone who wants it