

## **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
  - Brittany will add our contact information to the website
- Thursday: Conversation with the Rotary
  - What to discuss?
  - Collaboration opportunities
  - 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?
  - 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
  - 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:
  - Reach out to businesses- what do they see as their role in making Bristol more sustainable? And what are they already doing?
  - Continuing recycling work
  - 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.
  - Reaching out to businesses—Nancy wants to do this.
    - Herb says we'll learn more about this at the Rotary meeting
  - Brittany—there are probably strategies out there for groups who want to work with businesses
    - Green Certifications for businesses?
    - Bristol Sustainability Committee certification?
  - 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