

SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE MINUTES

OCTOBER 10, 2023

Present: Herb, Nancy, Brenda, Jan

Absent: Jeremy

Minutes of September meeting were approved

OLD BUSINESS:

TTCC meeting - Nancy spoke with Les Dion from TTCC to see how we can help with sustainability issues regarding their new building and single use plastics for their events. Les was very interested and said when they set up the facilities committee for the new building they will invite us to be on it.

Recycling Report - Herb continues to work on gathering information about where to get rid of things. Town administrator has requested our help in providing updated listings on the transfer station link on the town webpage. He is having trouble finding resources for certain items - fluorescent bulbs being one. ****He will keep gathering information.

New members - an appeal was put into "The Buzz" looking for new members. No reply yet.

Climate Change program at Minot Sleeper Library March 19 - Jan gave an update on the library event we will be co-hosting. Martha from the library has contacted a professor at Plymouth State University who will present a program on Climate Change. ****Jan will be the contact person and will work with Martha at the library on publicity. Our committee will look into state legislation that may be relevant so that we can present that information at the program.

NEW BUSINESS:

Next article for "The Buzz" - we will continue to look for articles to contribute.

New ideas/projects- We had a discussion on how best to work with businesses and town organizations to reduce single use plastic (utensils, to go boxes), etc. Our next goal will be to gather information about costs, etc. before we approach any organizations. For next month's meeting:

****Nancy will contact the NH Plastics Working Group

****Jan will contact Common Man about pricing and availability

****Brenda will research the cost of washing items vs. using disposables

Election of Officers - Nancy Dowey, Chair
Herb D'Arcy, Vice Chair and Janet Metcalf, Secretary

TOWN OF BRISTOL SURVEY — We completed a survey requested by the Select Board to all town committees.

WHAT ARE THREE OBSTACLES YOU FACE?

- 1) Filling board positions and retaining members.
- 2) The nature of our 'job' makes it difficult to carry out initiatives without the support of corporate policies and local/state legislation.
- 3) The broad scope of sustainability makes it difficult to decide where we can be the most effective for the town of Bristol.

WHAT ARE THREE THINGS THE TOWN COULD DO BETTER?

- 1) Keep the town website updated and easily accessible.
- 2) Provide forums for committees/commissions to share information.

WHAT ARE YOUR TOP THREE OBJECTIVES FOR THE NEXT YEAR?

- 1) Continue providing education to Bristol residents and businesses through events at the library, hosting our own public events and using "The Buzz" newsletter.
- 2) Assist in making improvements to transfer station page on town website.
- 3) Continue our work with NH Plastics Working Group specifically identifying local organizations and business interested in reducing single use plastics and helping to make that happen.

Next meeting set for November 14, 6:30 pm at the Minot Sleeper Library.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:45 PM

Respectfully submitted by Janet Metcalf