

**TOWN OF EXETER
SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
07Mar23**

Meeting was called to order by Chetana at 7:04pm.

Members present: Chetana Palmer, Chris Zigmont, Stacey Rogers, Ryan Jean, and Jackie Ojala

Staff and Select Board Member Present: Kristen Murphy, Conservation & Sustainability Planner

Motion by Chris, 2nd by Stacey to **approve meeting minutes from 2/7/23** as presented. Motion passes, unanimously.

Single Use Plastic

- SAC supports warrant article #32 from the 3/14 election.
- Chetana asks SAC members to encourage our networks to vote

The Solid Waste Sub-committee (Chetana, Chris & Stacey) will meet this month and bring key information back to the SAC

Speakers on the building code

- Kristin spoke to NEEP, they are willing to present to a joint meeting of the SAC & Energy committee about what's in the existing code and what could be included if we moved to the 2021 version or a stretch code. Either April or May meeting based on their availability.
- Stacey got a contact at Waterville Valley Renewable Energy, she will reach out to see if the contact is interested in speaking with us
- Dave Sharples proposed an overhaul of the zoning code, which will be considered next year
 - Presentation and program are being created for the zoning board
 - Kristin suggests we weigh in on this process
- Ryan suggests we find someone who could give us a better understanding of the Inflation reduction act. There may be incentives provided for insulation and window replacements, and this could be a helpful resource for town members.
 - Chris suggests we ask a staffer from a senator's office to come to speak with SAC
 - Kristin mentions that many incentives are listed on the Exeter Energy committees.

Earth Week (week of 4/17)

- Can we have a Helpsy set up bins at a local school (Main St or Lincoln St) to collect textiles as an outreach for Earth Week?
 - Chris will reach out to schools to see if they are interested.

- Chetana will reach out to Helpsy

Alewife Festival

- Potential dates – 5/14 & 5/20
- SAC to come up with what we want to present or display
 - Chetana suggests reducing single-use plastics
 - Chris to find out sports schedules.

Environmental Film screening

- Climgration GenZ Mental Health: Climate Stories is free to screen
- Can we partner with PEA?
 - Chetana to reach out to the environmental club at PEA

Grants/Funding for Water Bottle Refill Station

- Kristin working on a grant, 501-3c needed for it, Scott Ruffner is willing to partner with this
 - Need to make sure Select Board is on board and Swazey Parkway trustees
 - Adam to review the draft application
- QR code on water fountains in town or other methods of communication to survey the town about other places to add water bottle refill stations
- Chetana reached out to the principal at PEA about options for a water fountain near the boathouse

Community Power is going to happen, the rate will be locked in next week

- Unitil will send out postcards with more information
- You are able to opt up to get more of your electricity from renewable sources

The revised charge needs to be reviewed with the select board

- 3/20 meeting, Chris will attend

Stacey and Nina's memberships are expiring in April

Ryan was excited to see the participation at the all board meeting. Suggests having the language document available during meetings.

With no additional business, Chris motioned, and Jackie seconded to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously. Adjourned at 8:24 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Jackie Ojala