

**TOWN OF EXETER  
SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
DRAFT MEETING MINUTES  
01Aug23**

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

**Members present:** Chetana Parmar, Chris Zigmont, Nina Braun, and Jackie Ojala

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

Stacey Rodgers has stepped away from the committee and the SAC thanks her for her contributions.

Motion by Chris, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Nina to **approve meeting minutes from 05Jun23** as presented. Motion passes, unanimously.

'Opt Up' for More Renewable Content - Exeter Community Power Aggregation Committee

- Stephanie Marshall presented, the aggregation committee ends in December 2023
  - 6987 people enrolled in community power
  - 87 people opted-up to more renewal energy
  - Would like to see more people opt-up, but more education is needed
  - There will be a table at the town vote to increase awareness and demonstrate how to opt-up
  - Possibility to have a table at the farmer's market to spread awareness
  - Likely that 33% and 50% renewable energy options will be lower cost than the general non-community power Unitil rate consistently
  - Unitil and Aggregation Committee are trying to make these options available for net metering customers, but they do not have all the necessary details yet
  - You can opt-up and down whenever needed
  - Visuals for Facebook and the website are in the process to spread the word
  - Can we combine communication with the water or sewer bills?

Committee positions

- Chris motions to institute a rotating chair and vice chair for each SAC meeting, whereas first, you'd be the vice chair, then the following month you'd be the chair, then we'd move on in the rotation, subject to some rules, detailed below. Nina seconds. The motion passes, unanimously.
  - The new chair starts at the creation of the agenda for the next meeting
  - New agenda is created in combination with both current and next month's chairs
  - The new agenda should be completed the Friday before the meeting

- Jackie will schedule the rotation, beginning with Chris as chair, and Nina as vice chair for September 2023. The rotation will proceed alphabetically moving forward.

#### Plastic Free July

- Chetana thanks everyone who sent in videos for the effort
- Kristen will follow up with Exeter TV to see if they got any responses to the videos

#### Sub-committee Solid Waste Update

- Chetana emailed DPW for contact information of different waste management companies
- Sub-committee is working to gather information about what is possible
- Kristen shared that DES has an upcoming training on state contracts and grant programs in relation to solid waste, she will send details to sub-committee

#### Environmental Film screening - Climgration GenZ Mental Health: Climate Stories

- No updates yet

#### SAC to have a table at the farmer's market

- Chetana has reached out but has not heard back yet, Kristen will follow up
- Opportunity to recruit additional SAC members

There is a cover over the cardboard recycling at the transfer station, free of charge to the town.

#### Single-use Plastic Update

- Legal council concerns were more substantial than we initially thought
- Listing specific areas of town property specifically is a concern and could put the town in an uncomfortable situation if pressed
- Permittees who rent the sidewalk spaces need outreach to see the impact to them
  - Kristen will pull a new list of permittees including these folks and SAC will assist with outreach
- Cross-functional Implementation Committee would be beneficial
- Can we use SAC budget to continue to inform the town about the policy?

With no additional business, Chetana motioned, and Chris seconded to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously. Adjourned at 7:51

Respectfully submitted,

Jackie Ojala

Proposed Chair Rotation Schedule

<b>Month</b>	<b>Chair</b>	<b>Vice Chair</b>
September 2023	Chris Zigmont	Nina Braun
October 2023	Nina Braun	Adam Dumville
December 2023	Adam Dumville	Ryan Jean
January 2024	Ryan Jean	Jackie Ojala
February 2024	Jackie Ojala	Chetana Parmar
March 2024	Chetana Parmar	Chris Zigmont