

**TOWN OF EXETER
SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
3 Sep 25**

Meeting was called to order by Denise at 7:05pm

Members Present: Denise Short, Chetana Palmer, Jim Breeling, Nina Braun, Julie Gaunt (alternate), Sarah Koff (alternate)

Staff and Select Board Member Present: Kristen Murphy, Conservation & Sustainability Planner; Dan Chartrand, Select Board Representative

Public Comments

- No comments from the public

Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes

- Kristen noted a typo of Gilford's name in the 2 Jul 25 minutes. Jim motioned to accept the minutes as amended and Nina seconded to approve the minutes from the 2 Jul 25 meeting. Motion passes unanimously.

TEAM Fall Equinox Tabling

- Event is on 9/20 from 10AM to 4PM
- It costs \$100 to table at the TEAM Fall Equinox event. The Energy Committee is concerned about the cost considering the combined budgets of both the Energy Committee and SAC wouldn't cover it.
- Jim and Dan will discuss a private donation to cover the cost so that the committees can represent at the event, as well as support TEAM.
- Denise will notify Amy on the Energy Committee and coordinate table coverage.
- Table ideas:
 - Energy Committee window dressing information
 - SAC Styrofoam information (like what was at the Alewife Festival)
 - Cover the table in Styrofoam
 - Sarah has a pop-up tent we could borrow for weather coverage
 - Kristen to print a bigger picture of Sarah's magnet design
 - Composting information

Committee E-News Name and Content

- "Earth to Exeter" was the winning choice for the Energy Committee and SAC E-News title
- Committees will alternate providing content to the bi-weekly report
- Content should be positive, provide alternatives to divert from the landfill (changing habits), and highlight committee initiatives. Ideas for content:
 - Sarah's magnet design
 - "What's not scary about Halloween" – composting pumpkins, use recyclable/reusable plates and cutlery for parties, use reused costumes
 - Oct Styrofoam event
 - Thanksgiving

- Holidays
- Composting

July 19th Styrofoam Collection Event Report

- Another successful event! In the first two hours 40+ cars came through. Filled 11 of the super bags.
- Next date: Oct 25 from 9-11AM. Nina tentatively agreed to pick up the bags Friday afternoon, Denise will seek the truck donation again.
- Sarah is reaching out to the elementary school to see if there is an opportunity for collecting Styrofoam from them.

Solid Waste Subcommittee

- A way for the SAC to participate in upcoming solid waste negotiations with the town's vendor is to let town negotiators know about the committee's initiatives to divert as much solid waste out of the landfill as possible and ask them to ensure the contract includes reporting metrics that track quantity of waste enough to see reduction. This information may help them negotiate a better contract that can highlight the cost savings of the town if residents make different choices about where their waste goes.
- Improvements to the Transfer Station to make room for the new Styrofoam condenser won't include paving or additional recycling stations; improvements like that should be considered for the Capital Improvement Plan.

Sustainable Partner Program Idea

- Kristen came across an idea to introduce a reward program for businesses that promote sustainable practices in town. Based on a checklist of criteria (to be determined), businesses would receive a window decal or something similar to show their participation. Sarah and Julie will collaborate on the idea.

Other Business

- Sarah is interested in seeing town pedestrian/bike path improvements move forward, and thinks input from the SAC could be valuable, and is seeking collaboration with other members on the committee. Julie and Dan have volunteered to help. Updates to be considered for the next meeting's agenda.
- Kristen sent a series of lunch and learn seminars hosted by the NHACC, which are free for us to join. Choose I am a member when registering. If any members participate, consider bringing notes for the next meeting's agenda.

With no additional business, Jim motioned and Julie seconded to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously. Adjourned at 8:28pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Julie Gaunt