

**TOWN OF EXETER
SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
1 Oct 25**

Meeting was called to order by Denise at 7:03pm

Members Present: Denise Short, Jim Breeling, Julie Gaunt (alternate), Sarah Koff (alternate)

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

Thank You & Recognition of Jackie Ojala's SAC Service

- Jackie is moving away and can no longer participate in the SAC. The committee wishes her the best and thanks her for her service on the committee over the last several years.

Election of Clerk

- With Jackie's departure, there is a vacancy for committee Clerk. The Clerk's primary responsibility is to take meeting minutes. If necessary, whoever takes the minutes can refer to the meeting recording, which is usually available very soon after meetings conclude.
- Denise opened the floor to volunteers and then asked if Julie would be willing to step in, since Julie has done the minutes a few times already this year. Julie agreed, and Jim volunteered to be available as an alternate in case Julie can't make it to a meeting.
- Jim motioned to promote Julie to Clerk of the SAC and Sarah seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Comments

- No comments from the public

Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes

- Jim motioned to approve the minutes from the 9 Sept 2025 meeting as written, Sarah seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Voting Member Vacancy (1)

- With Jackie's departure, there is a vacancy for a voting member on the SAC.
- The committee currently has two alternates, Julie and Sarah. Julie joined the SAC as an alternate before Sarah, so it was agreed that Julie would be recommended as a voting member of the SAC. Denise will send the recommendation to the Select Board.

TEAM Fall Equinox Tabling Update

- The event went very well, with some conversations with the public about recycling opportunities in Exeter.
- There was a suggestion jar on the table that received some ideas. Denise shared them via email with the committee prior to the meeting.
- Thank you to Jim and Dan for donating the funds to have the table at the event, and those who were able to man the table.

NHACC Recycling 101 Webinar Update (Julie)

- Julie and Kristen attended a webinar hosted by the NHACC, who brought in a speaker from NH Recycles. The webinar had a lot of useful information and content.
- Kristen will investigate if Exeter is a member of NH Recycles and if not, what the process entails. The nonprofit provides education materials, data, and workshop resources. It also helps towns find collectors for their recycling.
- Some of the material presented could be used for the committee's Earth to Exeter and social media. Ideas should be added to the Google doc.

Earth to Exeter Minute Topic for Oct 10

- Earth to Exeter is the content submitted to the bi-weekly town newsletter (written). Content for the newsletter can be populated from the Google doc. The committee agreed that information about the upcoming Styrofoam collection should go into the October 10th Earth to Exeter.
- The Exeter Biweekly Report (video) is something else the committee can produce content for. When the Styrofoam densifier is installed, video from that installation could be used for the biweekly report.

Sustainable Partner Program Subcommittee Update (Sarah, Julie, Kristen)

- The subcommittee has brainstormed a list of metrics that will hopefully cater to a variety of businesses in town.
- The subcommittee will present the final version to the SAC at the next meeting and then share it with a local business owner to verify the list is ok to use.
- Dan suggested that the team also present the program at an upcoming Chamber of Commerce meeting. The Chamber of Commerce should be able to help publicize the new initiative with local businesses.
- The program is tentatively scheduled to launch in the new year.

October 25th Styrofoam Collection Logistics (Kristen)

- Denise was able to secure a truck donation from U-Haul. Nina will be able to pick up the bags from Gilford. This collection will be the last one before the town's densifier is installed at the end of November.

New Member Outreach

- With Julie's nomination as a voting member, the SAC now has one alternate position open. Dan will keep an eye out for potential candidates to join as an alternate.

Other Business

- According to metrics given during the NHACC webinar, food waste is the #1 waste type that's sent to landfills nationwide. The committee discussed hosting some type of composting/food waste diversion workshop, either in person or online. There is enough money in the budget available for the committee to purchase a few kitchen composting bins for give-away prizes. The committee will discuss ideas at the next meeting.
- There was some discussion about what is in the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) and Master Plan that could overlap with the SAC's interests. Jim will research the two documents and come back to the next meeting with ideas of things the SAC could engage with or petition to add.

With no additional business, Jim motioned and Sarah seconded to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously.
Adjourned at 8:22pm.

Submitted by,
Julie Gaunt