



TOWN OF EXETER, NEW HAMPSHIRE

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www.exeternh.gov

PUBLIC NOTICE SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE Monthly Meeting

The Exeter Sustainability Advisory Committee will in the Wheelwright Room,
Exeter Town Offices at 10 Front Street, Exeter on **Tuesday, October 4th, 2022 at 7:00 P.M.**

1. Call SAC Meeting to Order/Welcome
2. Public Comments
3. Approval of Minutes (06 Sept 2022)
4. Action Items
 - a. Single-use plastic document for Exeter - Kristen Murphy presentation format to SB dates to which to present to SB for public comments
 - b. Sub-committee feedback
5. Other Business: - Pumpkin compositing this year at Laney & Lu ?
6. Adjourn

Next Meeting: Tuesday 1st November 2022 at 7pmCall SAC Meeting to Order

Chetana Palmer
Sustainability Advisory Committee

Posted Sept 30th, 2022 Exeter Town Website www.exeternh.gov and Town Office kiosk.

**TOWN OF EXETER
SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 6, 2022**

Meeting was called to order by Chetana Palmer at 7:03pm

Members present: Chetana Palmer, Chris Zigmont, Adam Dumville, Nina Braun, and Jackie Ojala

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

Other Attendees: Stacey Rogers & Ryan

Officer elections -

Motion by Adam, 2nd by Nina to appoint Chetana to Chair, Chris to Vice Chair, and Jackie to Secretary. Motion passes: 3 yes (Adam, Jackie, Nina), 1 no (Chris), 1 abstain (Chetana)

Motion by Chris, 2nd by Jackie to **approve meeting minutes from May 3rd, 2022** as presented. Motion passes, unanimously.

Single Use Plastics Ban on Town Property

- Kristen presented feedback from survey that was presented to town staff and those who receive special use permits from the town. In addition to the edits to the document draft provided by Kristen, the following edits were proposed:
 - Remove “related” from 24.04 #2
 - Define human service as referenced in 24.04 #2
 - Remove 24.05 #3 regarding citations
- Motion by Nina, 2nd by Chris to accept the language in the draft document with the discussed edits. Motion passes, unanimously
- Committee recognizes that it is important to reach out to town offices and vendors who have concerns about the ban, and will do so as follows
 - Chris – Parks & rec
 - Nina – Meals on wheels
 - Jackie – Seacoast eat local (farmer’s market)
 - Adam – Team

Action Items

- Jackie to email updated charge to the committee to review at next meeting
- Chris & Adam to determine top 3 action items for the next year

Kristen provided relevant updates from other committees and will continue to do so moving forward

With no additional business, Chetana motioned, and Chris seconded to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously. Adjourned at 8:42pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Jackie Ojala

1. Advise and support the Conservation & Sustainability Planner.
2. Define and publicize "Sustainability" within the context of current town operations.
3. Review and recommend at least 2 sustainability-related priorities and initiatives a year on proposed Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) projects and warrant articles.
4. Advise and coordinate with the Select Board, Town Manager, Conservation & Sustainability Planner, and all relevant town departments and committees in pursuit of grants and state and federal funds for sustainability initiatives.
5. Identify priority community partners and stakeholders in sustainability efforts, so the Sustainability Office/Coordinator and town officials can engage most effectively.
6. Establish a communication plan to coordinate and engage with community partners and stakeholders in sustainability needs and initiatives. ***clarify exactly what this means*
7. Produce an annual report to the Select Board encompassing the areas above and progress in each of these areas.

- ~~1. Advise and assist the Select Board on the establishment of a formal Sustainability Office pursuant to Exeter Town Warrant 2019, article 31.~~
2. Advise and support the Sustainability Office.
3. Define and publicize "Sustainability" within the context of current town operations.
4. Review and recommend sustainability related priorities and initiatives on proposed Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) projects and warrant articles.
5. Advise and coordinate with the Select Board, Town Manager, and all relevant town departments and committees in pursuit of grants and state and federal funds for sustainability initiatives.
6. Identify priority community partners and stakeholders in sustainability efforts, so the Sustainability Office/Coordinator and town officials can engage most effectively.
7. Establish communication plan to coordinate and engage with community partners and stakeholders in sustainability needs and initiatives.
8. Perform a 'gap analysis' of what Exeter has accomplished (both community and town government?) regarding sustainability efforts, and recommend what needs to be accomplished.
9. Produce an annual report to the Select Board encompassing the areas above and progress in each of these areas.

From Regional Sustainability and Resilience Program

Connecting community to resources – community engagement and education

Provide baseline regional assessments

Develop a program that is dynamic and adaptive based on changing needs and science

Jackie's Edits:

~~1. Advise and assist the Select Board on the establishment of a formal Sustainability Office pursuant to Exeter Town Warrant 2019, article~~

~~31.~~ complete

2. Advise and support the ~~Sustainability Office~~ Conservation & Sustainability Planner. - Keep

3. ~~Define and~~ publicize definition of "Sustainability" within the context of current town operations. – below in green is noted on town's website, so we have a definition, but it could be publicized more. There is also a definition in the Framework from Kristen in blue. The Framework's definition is more concise and probably easier to publicize.

Define and publicize 'Sustainability' in the context of current town operations:

The most commonly quoted definition of sustainability is from the 1987 'Our Common Future' (commonly referred to as The Brundtland Report), published by World Commission on Environment and Development.

"Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs." (ref: The Brundtland Report, 1987

In Exeter, this means addressing the many urgent climate and environmental priorities cited in the Master Plan and raised by citizens, including:

- Climate change impacts - while rapidly reducing our emissions, we must simultaneously mitigate for impacts already occurring and increasing, including sea level rise, flooding, changing precipitation patterns, impacts on agriculture, etc. This means incorporating new ways of operating from the macro to micro levels*
- Pollution - visible and invisible - on land, and within our rivers, tributaries and estuary, including plastics, trash, toxic chemicals/pesticides, fertilizers, etc.*
- Water Quality - for drinking, for wildlife, and for a healthy estuary that supports healthy marine ecosystems*
- Air quality*
- Maintaining and monitoring open spaces, conservation land, wetlands*
- Sense of community - safe, walkable, hikeable, equitable, supportive of arts, music, local business, and a diverse inter-generational citizenry*

Sustainability: *when a healthy environment, economic prosperity and social justice are pursued simultaneously to ensure the well-being and quality of life of present and future generations.*

Nina's notes: Defining what sustainability means in the context of the Town of Exeter and to its residents should be an agreed upon, consistent definition that can be easily communicated and publicized. The long version above speaks to environmental means of obtaining sustainability while the shortened version (Kristen's) refers more to what

sustainability means in the context of community. These two ideas should be combined into one, concise, definition.

4. Review and recommend **at least 2** sustainability-related priorities and initiatives **a year** on proposed Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) projects and warrant articles. **Update, see #8 (Gap Analysis)**

5. Advise and coordinate with the Select Board, Town Manager, **Conservation & Sustainability Planner**, and all relevant town departments and committees in pursuit of grants and state and federal funds for sustainability initiatives. **keep**

6. Identify priority community partners and stakeholders in sustainability efforts, so the Sustainability Office/Coordinator and town officials can engage most effectively. **keep**

7. Establish communication plan to coordinate and engage with community partners and stakeholders in sustainability needs and initiatives. **UPDATE – define what this means exactly?**

8. Perform a 'gap analysis' of what Exeter has accomplished (both community and town government?) regarding sustainability efforts, and recommend what needs to be accomplished. **Completed – unless we need additional analysis here, thoughts? – NB – Should this be an on-going effort as new initiatives come along each year and varying goals are met or unmet. Or can this be combined with the ideas in #4 about defining 2 priorities a year? Should the priorities be somewhat based on the findings of the gap analysis?**

9. Produce an annual report to the Select Board encompassing the areas above and progress in each of these areas. **keep**