

**TOWN OF WASHINGTON
SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

June 14, 2023

5:00 P.M. Meeting Held Via Zoom Conference and Main Level Meeting Room

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Hubelbank, Mr. Charles, Ms. Dyer, Ms. Frank, Ms. Matteo,
 Mr. Hagenbuch
MEMBERS ABSENT: Ms. Gil-Rodgers, Ms. Rowe
STAFF PRESENT: Mr. Buell, Ms. Gorra
OTHERS: Ms. Jamieson

The Chair called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.

Regular Meeting

Approval of Minutes

Motion: To approve the minutes for the May 10, 2023 meeting as written. Motion put
 forth by Mr. Hubelbank, seconded by Mr. Charles. Passed unanimously.

Updates on current action items

LISD

Mr. Hubelbank indicated that the R.F.P. for the creation of LISD regulations had been posted and that the deadline for this will be July 1, 2023.

Wake Boats

Mr. Hubelbank informed the Committee that work to implement the prohibition of wake boats on Lake Waramaug was ongoing. He explained that Mr. Brinton, First Selectman, had forwarded the draft of the proposed regulations to D.E.E.P. and had received several comments back. He stated that discussions with D.E.E.P. regarding the enforcement aspect of this regulation had not yet been concluded. The Commission briefly discussed the safety and environmental concerns of wake boats.

Invasive Species Management

Mr. Hagenbuch informed the Committee that the Steep Rock Association had applied to the Inland Wetlands Commission for the removal of Japanese Primrose on their preserves.

Ms. Frank explained to the Committee that the Conservation Commission had found an intern to assist with mapping invasive plant species at the New Preston Open Space, and on the Conservation Commission's easements. The Committee then discussed the intern which the Town of Washington planned to hire to assist with mapping invasive plant species on town properties.

Transfer Station

Ms. Gorra explained that the company which handles composting at the transfer station is willing to accept all BPI certified products and indicated that she felt the town should publicize what may or may not be taken by this company. The Committee then discussed the possibility of composting at the transfer station instead of having compostable products be shipped to be composted at another location. A brief discussion ensued.

EV Charging Stations

Mr. Hagenbuch asked for an update on the installation of electric vehicle charging stations. Mr. Hubelbank explained the work which had been done to have more of these stations installed, and how the cost of this work had become prohibitive. A brief discussion ensued. Mr. Hubelbank indicated that the town crew planned purchase hybrid or electric vehicles going forward.

Discussion on next steps

Mr. Hubelbank informed the Committee that the town plans to potentially build solar at the transfer station. He explained that a solar array at this location would produce enough electricity to run all of the town buildings, but that the majority of the revenue generated by this field would go to the installation company instead of the town. He indicated that this company would be responsible for ongoing maintenance for these solar arrays. The Committee discussed the benefit of solar at this location, and how more efficient building design impacts the amount of solar required to power a building. Mr. Hubelbank indicated that he would like for the town to consider adding solar panels on the Town Hall. The Committee then discussed the possibility of prohibiting 2-cyle engines within the town.

Ms. Gorra indicated that she would like to more closely examine pedestrian safety, improved parking, and cyclist safety within the town. Mr. Charles indicated that walkability had been addressed in supporting documents like the 2005 Depot Study. A brief discussion ensued.

Other Business to Come before the Committee

No new or other business was discussed by the Committee.

Public Comment

No public comment was made.

Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 6:03 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dennis Buell

Dennis Buell
Sustainability Committee Clerk
6-21-2023

A link to access a recording of this meeting is below.

https://townofwashingtongcc-my.sharepoint.com/:f:/g/personal/dbuell_washingtonct_org/EhmwdA-Z8UIPkHO9uLpIO1EBBY2Y9jaX EVP2Llkm30_bxw?e=tc6l8w