

**TOWN OF WASHINGTON
Sustainability Committee
Minutes
January 13, 2021**

Meeting held via Video Conferencing

Minutes are subject to the approval of the Sustainability Committee

Present: Jay Hubelbank, Monique Gil-Rodgers, Carole Mateo, Chris Charles
Absent: Susie Payne, Carrie Rowe
Staff: Michelle Gorra

Jay Hubelbank called the meeting to order at 5:05 pm.

Jay welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted that Susie Payne had notified him that she would not be able to attend the meeting. Michelle Gorra noted that the dates for the 2021 meetings were listed on the agenda and the zoom link would be the same for all the meetings.

Jay also updated the Committee on his efforts to attain the help of a clerk. Jay explained that Michelle had a discussion with Linda Gomez, the Town's Finance Director, about potential funding in this year's budget. Jay and Michelle are going to discuss options with Jim Briton with the hope of having the Board of Selectmen make a recommendation to the Board of Finance to move available funds to a line item for a clerk for the Committee. They hope to be able to acquire the funds by the end of the month. In the meantime Jay indicated he will prepare the minutes.

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Jay Hubelbank, seconded by Monique Gil-Rodgers to approve the minutes of the December 29th meeting. Motion passed unanimously

Review of State Action Items

The Committee spent the next hour reviewing the state action items. The goal is to identify those action items the town has already accomplished or can accomplish in time to meet the August submission deadline. Attached is a breakdown of those action items the committee is working on along with the committee member who volunteered to work on the item.

Committee Update:

Jay reminded members to let him know of any citizens who may be interested in joining the committee. Michelle indicated she had spoken with representatives from Steep Rock and she was hopeful that someone from that organization would like to join the Committee.

At the suggestion of Chris Charles, the committee agreed to look for local experts who could help with specific action items on an as needed basis.

Jay also reminded the Committee that we lack chairperson. He explained that the State required a member of the Board of Selectmen to be a member of the Sustainability Committee. While he is happy to serve on the Committee, he stated given his other responsibilities he did not want to serve as chair. He agreed to chair the committee until someone steps forward.

There being no further business, the Committee adjourned at 6:35 pm