

Meeting Minutes

Weston Sustainable Committee

(SusCom)

August 17 2021

Sustainable Committee Members	Zoom Present	Sustainable Committee Members	Zoom Present
David Ayer (DA) Member at Large	no	Sandy Kendall (SK) Member at Large	yes
Phoebe Beierle (PB) Permanent Bldg. Com Liaison	yes	Alyson Muzila (AM) School Com. Liaison	no
Alex Selvig (AS) Planning Board Liaison	no	Katharina Wilkins (AKW) Chair, SB Liaison	yes
Chris Jylkka (CJ) Member at Large	no	Kortni Wroten (KW) <i>Ex Officio</i>	yes

Also Zoom present: residents Debbie Slotpole, Jonathan Harris, and Julie Hyde

Despite lack of quorum, meeting continued, as there were no decisions or votes to be taken.

No.	Description	Action
1.	A ZOOM meeting of the Weston Sustainable Committee was held as duly posted and called to order at 7:08 p.m.	-
2.	KW Update: Green Communities Grant due in October could cover most of the cost of installing electric car charging stations in town center. Waiting to hear from Eversource on covering costs of Streetlight Project switching to all LED bulbs (meanwhile checking different products for factors like glare, color, effect on wildlife, etc.). Select Board has approved general project.	
3.	Pay As You Throw Update: DA emailed AKW that there are no new updates, but there will be plastic film collection at the transfer station! (Also at Brothers.)	
4.	AKW: New idea—have a WHS student or two as associate members of the committee. We would need to articulate the role, defining expectations and responsibilities, and write a “job description.” Idea liked by those present, will confer with full committee/quorum.	-
5.	<p>Discussion: Town projects. There is an RFP for needs assessment at WHS and WMS. KW will try to add sustainability bullets to the scope of the RFP (e.g., solar panels on roof or parking canopies, changing stations, ventilation, pool?) and ask Town Manager (LG) about budget logistics. We should get Sustainability Committee involved before too late.</p> <p>Debbie Slotpole mentioned the public library plans to build a permanent outdoor pavilion. Need to learn more to see how it fits in or supports Weston Ahead goals.</p> <p>Julie Hyde pointed out that community-building (a presumed goal of pavilion) is a part of resilience planning, a shared goal of Weston Ahead and the Emergency Preparedness Group. General agreement that our two committees should work more closely.</p>	KW – more fact-finding
6.	<p>Discussion: How to give Weston Ahead teeth? The group raised the following possibilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Select Board (SB) or even Town Meeting (TM) should ratify climate goals to get real commitment • Develop way to hold town employees accountable for upholding/considering sustainability principles • Joint meetings of Sus Com with other volunteer/elected committees to help keep focused on sustainability goals • Directive from town manager that Weston Ahead goals are priorities • Department heads need to be guided by CARP and keep questioning how their work/actions support it—socialize its acceptance so not following it is frowned upon 	PB – ask KLA what others have done

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need quantitative info for departments to measure against • Commitment to CARP/related policy can be positioned as supporting/matching MA roadmap • SB synthesizes key elements into succinct policy (short of bylaw) that town manager can OK; they sign and LG can enforce 	
7.	<p>Discussion: Bylaws re. emission-free new construction. It Lots of groundwork needed before bringing to TM. KW has some financials but more data needed, e.g., how many new residences would be affected? How have other towns implemented? Next steps: homework. Collect data, consult with realtor(s), develop presentation.</p>	ALL – devise questions, research
1.	The next meeting of the Sustainability Committee will be held via ZOOM on September 21 at 7:00 p.m.	
2.	The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.	

Attachments: none

Respectfully submitted: Sandy Kendall