

Sustainable Future Commission

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, June 7, 2016

7:00 PM to 8:50 PM

Town Hall, Lyons

Next Meeting: on July 12, at town hall, at 7pm

Name	Position	Voting Member
Dave Hatchimonji	Co-chair	Y
Jeff Christy	Secretary	Y
Dan Greenberg	BOT Liaison	N
Toby Russell		N
Dan Matsch		Y
David Decoster		Y
Ken Singer		Y
Dawn Weller		N
Coco Gordon	Co-chair	Y
Diane Dandeneau		N

Voting quorum this meeting: yes

- 1) Review and approve minutes from 5/12 meeting

Motion to approve by Ken, seconded by Dave, approved unanimously.

2) Sub-committee and Commission/Board Liaison updates

a. Board liaisons

PRC - Jeff - Meeting next Monday. We will continue to request that the SFC have input on any parks & rec. RFPs and be a reviewer on the responses.

BOT - Dan G - Jim Kerr was at the MEAN meeting, and there was discussion at the BOT meeting about how MEAN will charge for net metering. It did not sound good. UEB did not have a voting quorum at that meeting. MEAN wants to apply a new surcharge on renewable energy. There is a lot that we don't know and need to learn about the change in order to formulate a response - for example, what does grandfathering mean, and what would the new costs be?

Dan M - could we do something like Aspen did with their agreement?

Toby - the SFC needs to understand the policy change and then some possible options are to try and reach out to other communities and form a coalition within MEAN, or try to get out of MEAN. Do we need a subcommittee to work this?

Dave H - Does this change by MEAN conflict with any state regulations?

Diane - MEAN is not governed by the state (P.U.C.), it is governed by a federal entity.

Dan G - it would be a worthwhile conversation to talk about what we can do in the short-term for folks wanting to put in solar - we need to communicate the possible ramifications, among other things.

Diane - grandfathered systems would not have to be metered and thus would not be counted.

Dan G - it would be good if some SFC representation could be present when the UEB presents to this topic to the BOT.

Coco - Do we have a way to give input into the MEAN process?

Dan G - there are some times when schedule M towns like Lyons get to vote, and times when no towns get to vote.

Dave H - We need to get some direction from the board, as we are not necessarily chartered to do this.

Toby - But we need to become well-informed stakeholders.

Dave H - When the questions that the town has are answered, we can better understand how to move forward.

Dan G - We need this new subcommittee to be comprised of UEB and SFC members, and to update the board, and the board does support this work.

3) Updates from the Sustainability Coordinator- Toby

A large amount of zero-waste event work, that has been the coordinator's focus.

4) Current Business

a. Yard Sale and Clean-Up Day debrief

Yard Sale: More people and vendors than last year.

No water in the visitor center.

Let's figure out how to publicize the event even better next year.

Cleanup: Participation was up.

\$2940 gross revenue.

20399 lb.s of diverted material.

Not enough bins, need more scrap metal bins and landfill bins next time.

The leftover tree limb pile is a whole other issue and possibly the only negative about the event.

i. Suggestions for leftover tree limb pile- David D

Hugel pile suggestion from Coco. But where to place?

b. Outdoor Games debrief

Toby - Good volunteers, except for the last shift at the end of the day.

Need an assistant next year, was super busy.

There were a couple of areas that needed more/some volunteers, Black Bear Hole being one.

For the Burning Can portion, we put up a trash and recycling bag between every pair of vendors, and some vendors mentioned their appreciation.

Dan M - next year, we need to push back on who actually manages the zero-waste piece.

Dan G - would it be good for the SFC to review a zero-waste plan for LOG (or any town event, or any event held in town) before the event is approved by the BOT? This would mean that we would be thinking about this in the October timeframe, not the March timeframe.

Diane - this was discussed several years ago, and the idea was that the zero waste piece would be codified into the policies for any event in town.

c. ZW at Sandstone Concerts

Should zero waste be a task for the PRC?

Dan G - this should be an action item to discuss next time. The SFC can position itself as the body that advises, vs. the body that implements the work. Think of this as a budget task, so that expectations can be set appropriately. Plan to present to the BOT at the July 18th meeting **(AMENDED by 6/8/16 email to be the August 1st meeting, as the July 18th meeting is full)**.

5) New Business

a. SFC "Renewable Energy Subcommittee"- Diane

Let's get really clear about what we want as a community.

Dave - this has been codified in the LESAP.

Diane - We need to help MEAN understand the options, and what the real costs of the various options, like coal, actually are. We can do this in a way that makes energy cheaper across the board. Let's start out collaboratively.

Dave H - Providing input to MEAN is great, but we can't really go it alone as our town. The Office of Consumer Council might be able to help.

Coco - Has MEAN even thought about what will happen as the renewables get cheaper?

Diane - let's communicate that the new policy does not meet the needs of the town and that we would like to start a dialogue about this. It also forces us to think about and get clear on what we want in Lyons. It is absolutely appropriate for us to be a focal point for the town on this issue.

Subcommittee members: Coco, Aaron from the UEB, Diane, and Justin if we can convince him.

Motion to move the SFC meeting for July and August to the second Tuesday of the month. Seconded by Dave H., approved unanimously.

6) Confirm next meeting date and time (7/12)

Confirmed, 7/12 at 7:00 p.m., at town hall.

Motion to adjourn meeting by Ken, seconded by Dan M, approved unanimously.