

1 WESTON SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE MEETING
2 MINUTES
3 TUESDAY, JUNE 5 2018
4 7:30 P.M.
5

6 WESTON SCHOOLS ADMIN BUILDING CONFERENCE ROOM

7 *Official actions of the commission in these minutes are indicated by underlining.*
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9 The Weston Sustainability Committee held a meeting on Tuesday June 5, 2018 at Weston
10 Schools Admin Buidling Conference Room. Committee Members present: Kirby
11 Brendsel, Ken Coulson, Amy Kalafa, Marc de Mul, and Bonnie Troy. Also present were
12 the High School Sustainability Representative Collin Socha, as well as Helen De Keijzer
13 and Tom Socha. Chair de Mul called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

- 14 1) There was a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting on May 10, 2018 meeting
15 and to officially change titles going forward to Committee Members (from
16 Commissioners) by Vice-Chair Kalafa that was seconded by Chair de Mul. Motion
17 was approved. For: 5 / Against: 0.
- 18 2) Update on Green Leaf Schools by High School Sustainability Representative Collin
19 Socha.
- 20 a) Currently doing the self assessment and completing the application (and potential
21 to proceed towards the Green Leaf Banner)
- 22 b) Work has been underway on garnering Principal's sign-off on ability to complete
23 (and is continuing to work towards getting the plan into discussions with Principal
24 and Vice Principal).
- 25 c) Collin posed questions to the Sustainability Committee on their recommendations
26 on who to engage with around addressing use of water bottles and energy
27 consumption
- 28 i) For water bottles, advice from Sustainability Committee was that School's
29 Food Service Director would be the best contact
- 30 ii) For energy consumption, advice from Sustainability Committee was that the
31 Weston Town Administrator Jonathan Luiz would be the best contact (as it
32 was believed that he would have power and utility information).
- 33 d) High School Sustainability Committee is currently considering the following
34 opportunities:
- 35 i) Recycling bins in the classrooms for paper, and in the cafeteria for bottles and
36 cans.
- 37 ii) Elimination of single use bottled water, by selling re-usable water bottles and
38 having a water dispenser available (and perhaps using Weston High School as
39 a test case for other schools)
- 40 iii) Using food from garden at school to serve in the school

- 41 3) Low Impact Living Series Options and Path Ahead Discussion
- 42 a) Low Impact Landscaping – original idea from Sustainability Committee Member
- 43 Buettner on Green Lawncare, and could also include “Sustainable Practices in
- 44 Your Town” presentation from Michael Nadeau out of Sharon, Connecticut.
- 45 i) “Raising awareness of sustainability on your own property” - Could include
- 46 education on impact of leaf blowers, lawn mowers, etc... tailored towards
- 47 landscapers, as well as ensuring bee keeper notifications on pesticides (e.g.,
- 48 ensuring contact from landscapers on use).
- 49 b) Jenn Siskine would be a good contact to share on sustainable food and water as
- 50 well as fracking ban aspects. A potential could be a condensed presentation on
- 51 the fracking ban and / or maybe a table at Lachat Farm during Friday night events
- 52 with information (to be raised with Ellen at Lachat Farms about potential dates).
- 53 c) A Lachat Farm event around single stream recycling, or perhaps Vice-Chair
- 54 Kalafa’s contact who is working on an anaerobic digester. Or possibly a session
- 55 on “What’s recyclable or not, and how things work together” with Wayne Peshy
- 56 and Brian as possible speakers on this topic.
- 57 d) A marquee speaker (e.g., Paul Hawkin) – cost could be within the \$5 – 10K range
- 58 and would need to partner with someone like Audubon Greenwich. Vice-Chair
- 59 Kalafa on potential next steps.
- 60 e) Educational opportunities aligned with Sustainable Fairfield County
- 61 i) Water use education with Michael Nadeau
- 62 ii) Watershed education with perhaps Aquarion or Loise Washer at Norwalk
- 63 River Association or Soundwaters
- 64 f) Local Weston partnership with League of Women Voters or the Library or the
- 65 Senior Center (would also be beneficial to brainstorm further what other points of
- 66 contact may be good to partner with on these types of initiatives from a local /
- 67 Weston perspective).
- 68 g) Sustainability Committee overview or introduction.
- 69 h) Liz Millweed from Westport related to their bag ban ordinance.
- 70 i) Venues for presentations could include the Weston Library or Lachat Farm.
- 71 j) Immediate next steps include:
- 72 i) Vice-Chair Kalafa to talk with Ellen on venue
- 73 ii) Committee Member Troy to talk with Jenn Siskine on a fracking waste ban.
- 74 iii) Plastic bag ban and fracking as potential first subjects, so that we can educate
- 75 town around items we are working on.
- 76 4) Fracking Waste Ban Update
- 77 a) Current draft paperwork (current five page version) with new Weston Town
- 78 attorney (who has worked previously on town fracking bans) for review.

- 79 b) Working towards a June 28 completion with review and presentation to the Board
80 of Selectman.
- 81 c) If not approved through Board of Selectman, will require signature approach
82 (which requires a minimum of 340 signatures).
- 83 5) Plastic Bag Ordinance
- 84 a) The Weston Board of Selectman has been asking about the possible Plastic Bag
85 Ordinance, and Weston Sustainability Committee to update on additional
86 research.
- 87 b) Reviewed current Plastic Bag Ordinance draft language for agreement upon
- 88 i) Price to charge for replacement bags set at no less than \$0.10 for a paper
89 replacement.
- 90 ii) Credit for bringing your own bag to be left at discretion of store owners in
91 terms of amount
- 92 c) In terms of submission of version for approval, will include the one page slide
93 from Sustainability Committee Member Coulson as Appendix, and Vice-Chair
94 Kalafa to circulate final version for one last review and then send to Town
95 Attorney
- 96 6) Sustainable Connecticut
- 97 a) Have completed initial review and ranking to determine where Weston /
98 submission might reside, but application still requires additional work
- 99 b) Working group of Vice-Chair Kalafa and Committee Members Brendsel and
100 Coulson to conduct small working group meeting to further review and address
101 application
- 102 7) Weston Sustainability Committee Membership
- 103 a) Committee Member Scott Licamele has asked to step down / leave the Weston
104 Sustainability Committee.
- 105 b) Tom Socha, Weston resident with active community and social background, as
106 well as engagement on sustainability topics with his employment has asked to
107 join.
- 108 c) Chair de Mul to follow up on resignation from Committee Member Licamele, and
109 then forward Tom Socha's interest and nomination to Weston Board of
110 Selectmen, and then respond back to Tom Socha.
- 111 8) Other Items
- 112 a) Committee should add Air Quality as a topic for a winter session.
- 113 b) Vice-Chair Kalafa shared on her recent attendance at a regional sustainability
114 event where UI was a speaker, and hearing from UI on Electric Vehicle charger
115 resource opportunities (trying to get DEP).
- 116 9) Adjournment: Motion to adjourn was made by Chair de Mul and seconded by
117 Commissioner Brendsel. Motion was approved. For: 5 / Against: 0.

118 Meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

119 Respectfully Submitted,

120 Kirby Brendsel, Secretary