

Strategic Sustainability and Livability Committee of Great Barrington

Minutes of November 18, 2020

Location: Zoom meeting

Start: 5:49

End: 7:23

PRESENT:

Name			Name	
Devan Arnold	O		Natalie Narotzky	X
Jesse Carter	X		Jovanina Pagano	X
			Mark Phillips	X
			Aretha Whitehead	X

X = present on Zoom O = absent Ph = phone attendance

Note taker: Jovanina

ISSUE	DISCUSSION HIGHLIGHTS, DECISIONS, RECOMMENDATIONS	ACTION/FOLLOW-UP NEXT DEADLINE
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<u>Round Robin check in</u>	Citizen Introductions and SS&L committee members	
<u>Minutes approval</u>	Motion to approve minutes – Mark; Seconded – Aretha. Unanimous approval	
Composting update	<p>Aretha and Mark presenting:</p> <p>Mary Stuckland of Berkshire Zero waste provided info about different composting projects in the region. Also pointed out grants that we could look into.</p> <p>Juliette Hoss – Sustainability Coordinator of Egremont. Instrumental in advancing a compost station at the Egremont transfer station. There are certain circumstances in Egremont that we don't have – highway dept being one. Also, Juliette is the point person, keeping an eye on the composting project and keeping it clean and going smoothly.</p> <p>Veronique Blanchard, from DEP – on hand to support any initiatives in GB. Will join the next meeting with Sean VD in order to see what's possible. Mark will check in with her to see what we should recommend to the Selectboard.</p> <p>Recommendation to the SB – how wide of a scope should we recommend? Unclear right now. Same issue remains of budget and resources to do this at the transfer station. Letter- supporting grant funding for any assessment work that could be done to plan for future compost operations on the town level.</p> <p>Jovanina – there was some talk about a transfer station engineering study. What happened with that?</p> <p>Aretha – Center for Eco Technologies. Will explore what Franklin county did.</p> <p>Mark – from his research, upward of 25% of the GB waste is food waste that could be composted, Sean didn't know about this. Would like to figure out how to support Stanton Home in some kind of public/private partnership.</p> <p>Jovanina – wants to make sure that someone has their eye on possible grants so that all this work doesn't just end up in a series of recommendations that don't necessarily go anywhere.</p>	<p>Will bring a draft letter of recommendation to the Selectboard to the SS&L December meeting to review.</p> <p>Aretha and Mark to ask Sean – did an engineering study happen? If not, is there any intention to do this?</p>

<p><u>CEC</u> <u>grant/Sustainable</u> <u>Monument 2025</u></p>	<p>Jovanina presented the overview of the CLEAR grant.</p> <p>https://www.masscec.com/community-clean-energy-and-resiliency-program-%E2%80%93-expression-interest?mc_cid=e4ea8f072e&mc_eid=bb5d129bac</p>	<p>Jovanina, Jen Salinetti, and Natalie will review the EOI more closely to determine how and if to move forward with the application. Will inform committee members next week.</p>
<p>Net Zero Energy Research</p>	<p>Definition – building a house/building that produce as much energy as it uses. Future, creating more energy and sharing it locally. Three are some initiatives in CA and internationally around this – not sure how it’s going, though.</p> <p>Ed May – in touch with him. General trend in energy codes towards net-zero – not much movement here. Costs are prohibitive upfront so contractors and buyers are reluctant to make this investment, despite long-term payback. Code over the last 15 years has improved dramatically, though.</p> <p>Jesse doesn’t think it’s worth putting a significant effort in this direction right now.</p> <p>Natalie – what did Ed say about local building with bigger buildings? How much is being built and what type of buildings? At what scale? A lot of the net zero regulations are for new buildings or for significant renovations.</p> <p>Stretch code- has GB opted into, adopted the MA stretch code?</p>	
	<p>Motion to adjourn, Jesse, seconded by Mark.</p> <p>Next Meeting – December 16 at 5:45</p>	

Minutes submitted by Jovanina Pagano on 1/27/21