

# Strategic Sustainability and Livability Committee of Great Barrington

Minutes of April 29, 2019

Location:

Start: 5:23

End: 6:51

## PRESENT:

Name			Name	
Devan Arnold	X		Natalie Narotzky	X
Jesse Carter	X		Jovanina Pagano	X
Benjamin Downing	O		Richard Ruth	O
Michael Feldstein	O		Mark Phillips	X
Ananda Hartzell	X		Aretha Whitehead	X
Thomas C. Jordan	X		Kate Burke	O

**X = present   O = absent   Ph = phone attendance**

Note taker: Jovanina

ISSUE	DISCUSSION HIGHLIGHTS, DECISIONS, RECOMMENDATIONS	ACTION/FOLLOW-UP NEXT DEADLINE
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	Introductions for those who weren't at first meeting	
<u>3/29/19 Meeting Minutes Approval</u>	<p>Devan made a motion to nominate Natalie Narotzky as Chair of the committee because the person who seconded in the previous meeting had not yet been sworn in. The committee engaged in the Chair vote again. Mark Phillips seconded. All in favor. None opposed.</p> <p>Devan made a motion to accept the minutes with the amendment regarding the vote for Committee Chair. Jesse seconded. All in favor, none opposed.</p>	
Resignation of a committee member		
Member inclusiveness for generating agenda items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A shared google doc. Keep the agenda item pretty succinct, once you get the to the "because," it invites deliberation, which the committee can't do on a shared document</li> <li>• Time at the end of every meeting in the open meeting format for talking about ideas that come up during the meeting</li> </ul>	Send the proposed agenda in advance of the 48 hour deadline. 3 days is ideal.
Committee member info	Folks will send basic info about their interest in being on the committee and a very short bio, basically letting others know their areas of expertise for reference for committee work.	Committee members will send Jovanina this info for collection in a spreadsheet
Meeting with Sean Van Deusen, DPW Superintendent	<p>BRPC will likely help with the backlog filing for Green Communities.</p> <p>? Can Green Communities money be used for MMRHS?</p> <p>Solarizing municipal buildings has limits because of the historical commission and the nature of the buildings themselves.</p> <p>? Do we have a contact with National Grid?</p> <p>Strongest interest on Sean's part: converting all lighting to LEDs, and low-hanging fruit for energy efficiency in municipal buildings</p>	Tom would like to follow up around the question of owning town street lights with the town's National Grid contact.
Meeting with Chris Rembold, Town Planner	What is the Open Space Recreation Plan? It's an inventory of natural assets and puts forwards a plan for how to protect these spaces. 46% of the town	Ananda is interested in being our connector to the Planning

	<p>open space is protected.</p> <p>The OSRP task force is a cross-committee collection of people.</p> <p>? Is there anyone from the SS&amp;L committee that would like to liaise with the Planning Board through attending their meetings and developing a connection with one of the members?</p>	Board. Jesse is also interested.
Fielding potential committee projects	<p>Devan – would be good to have a running list of things we’re already doing.</p> <p>Aretha – timeliness, what is pertinent now? What can wait? Are there other organizations that</p> <p>Jesse – Developing a list of priorities</p> <p>Ananda – Review upcoming key dates within the town that impacts our activities? Maybe at the beginning of the meeting.</p> <p>Keeping informed of other committee and board work: The Newsletter; can subscribe on the town website for all the agendas and minutes of any town committees one is interested in. Main committee to follow:</p> <p>Long-term vs. Short-term</p> <p>Probability for success</p> <p>Process for determining if we do it:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What are we doing</li> <li>• What have the committee members proposed</li> <li>• Parking lot in a list of potential items to take on that are proposed by a community member.</li> </ul> <p>If something on the list resonates with a committee member, then email the chair with thoughts.</p> <p>Mark feels comfortable with the Chair having some level of managerial oversight and deciding what we focus on. More interested in working than</p>	The accountability checklist will be written up, sent to committee members, and reviewed at the next meeting.

	on deciding.	
Letter to the Next Steps Committee, etc.	<p>Agricultural Commission wanted to ensure that the new or renovated high school was advocating for a vision. Vivian Orlosky reached out to the SS&amp;L committee to also send a letter encouraging the Next Steps and School committee to incorporate sustainable (and other) initiatives in their plans for the new or renovated building.</p> <p><b><u>Committee Vote:</u></b> Do we want to submit a letter to the key stakeholders involved in this process? Devan motioned, Aretha seconded. All in favor, none opposed.</p> <p>Ed Abrahams suggested sending the letter, offering to help, and then keeping an eye on their process for future communications.</p> <p><b><u>Committee Vote:</u></b> Devan motioned to approve and send the letter. Aretha seconded. All in favor, none opposed.</p>	Natalie will contact the committee members who are not present to get approval for including their names.
Community visioning process	<p>MVP process – really innovative</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We know we need two four-hour community sessions for MVP on resilience</li> <li>• <i>Does it make sense to integrate GHG mitigation in the resilience process?</i></li> </ul> <p>Devan – would focusing on GHG mitigation cut into the time that would be focusing on resilience? This might entail doing other events to provide this information.</p> <p>A lot of community interest for this work.</p>	Task force members liaising with the Town Planner: Devan, Jesse, Mark, Aretha (after mid-May)
Agenda Items for the May meeting	<p>Community visioning process and MVP</p> <p>Community Aggregation</p>	Jovanina Pagano will email the community about this in advance of the next meeting