

# Strategic Sustainability and Livability Committee of Great Barrington

Minutes of May 25, 2022

Location: Zoom

Start: 5:37

End: 6:50

Name	
Natalie Narotzky	X
Jovanina Pagano	X
Mark Phillips	X
Aretha Whitehead	O
John Morrell	X

**X = present    O = absent**

Note taker: Jovanina

ISSUE	DISCUSSION HIGHLIGHTS, DECISIONS, RECOMMENDATIONS	ACTION/FOLLOW-UP NEXT DEADLINE
April Minutes	Motion to approve – Mark, seconded by John. Unanimously approved.	

MVP Project updates	<p>Woven Roots Year 2 event: Food justice and food sovereignty. They had a BIPOC healing with food event on May 16 and went spectacularly well and laid foundations for some really truly good work in the community. I believe Jen is working on a report, although if you have a deadline for her I'd be happy to clarify it, as I wasn't sure what it was. Youth engagement and building community around healing with food and food sovereignty</p> <p>Building capacity with the youth to deepen this work for the future.</p> <p><b>May 5<sup>th</sup> BRIDGE event</b></p>	
Mark's final meeting	<p>Mark is transitioning off the committee. Natalie appreciated all of his work over the entirety of the existence of the committee, particularly noting the amount of work he put into the MVP grant application.</p> <p>Jovanina appreciated the partnership around the pre-MVP grant work, in particular the community event that was so much work!</p> <p>Mark was wanting be engaged meaningfully in civic engagement on a local level. Learned a lot about what can happen at a Town level, looking forward to new relationships and engagement, either in New Marlborough or GB. Also hopes to encourage other folks to do this work, as it can be both enjoyable and impactful.</p> <p>Mark will meet with Aretha to ensure continuity of information about composting.</p>	
GBGB Next Steps	<p>Jovanina talked about the report as a relationship building tool. She connected with Gabby (Gabrielle Reeve) from RSYP about developing relationships with youth so that they might be involved in and be instrumental members of municipal projects/initiatives.</p> <p>John talked about the recommendation around a processing plant – for value-added products or meat processing. Thinks it could be a possible location for the SS&amp;L committee to support. This and other recommendations and sub-recommendations could be grant-generating tools.</p> <p>John thinks that continuing to outreach and develop relationships with the members of the Stockbridge-Munsee community. Also spoke about community gardens and</p>	<p>- Jovanina and Natalie will follow up about purchasing hard copies of the report for community partners.</p> <p>- John will reach out to the Conway Team to see if they have or will send the report directly to participants.</p>

	<p>community growing spaces and the possibility of connecting with Simon's Rock. Simon's Rock was one of the recommended locations in the report.</p> <p>Vivian: The Ag Com is looking into a grant possibility in partnership with the school district. If that pans out, that would be an opportunity for collaboration with other committees and local orgs mentioned in the GBGB report. More info will be revealed in the next couple of weeks. Vivian will be in touch with the committee when she knows more about the timeline so the SS&amp;L committee can meet if necessary. Vivian asked Steve Bannon if the SB would like a presentation about the report – Yes, though timing is the issue. Also the Planning Board. Chris Rembold would be the best person to connect around the timing.</p> <p>Natalie: Would really like if a future comparable report could be delivered in a way that is more accessible, particularly since it's unlikely that most people will read 120 pages (or even fewer).</p> <p>Jovanina – did the Conway team send the report to the participants of the community forums? Probably not – none of the core team received anything. John will reach out.</p>	
Housing Affordability	Mostly folks just digesting the information presented at the last meeting. Vivian spoke about the importance of being present at Town Meeting.	

Adjourned at 6:50