

CITY OF PORTSMOUTH, NEW HAMPSHIRE
BLUE RIBBON COMMITTEE ON SUSTAINABLE
PRACTICES

March 22, 2018 MEETING

DATE: March 22, 2018

TIME: 6:30 – 8:30 PM

PLACE: CITY MANAGER'S CONFERENCE ROOM

ATTENDANCE: PETER BRITZ, BERT COHEN, LANA BLUEGE,
TRACEY CAMERON, JOHN KENNEDY, LINDSAY GALLANT,
LARRY LARIVIERE, LUCY TREVINO, JOSH DENTON, HENRY,
GARY EPLER, MATT GLENN, JOHN RAGONIS - GUEST

Minutes

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES FROM February 15, 2018

III. NEW BUSINESS

1. Renewable Energy Committee Policy

- i. Council passed unanimously. Three levels 1) municipal 2) residents 3) vehicular traffic. Report, action plan with strategy. BC: We could leverage policy to bring to the city council. JD: maybe could be on the city website. Come up with list for items that could be on the website. Goal is to have a sustainability page link. Website could list the various state and federal initiatives. This could be a resource for the community. Helpful to look at new website. PB: Process is good, get a list rather than ad**

hoc. Typically city-focused programs. May need to be a quasi govt entity-unsure.

2. Committee Vision and Priorities

3. Presentation to the City Council

i. PS21 had city planner present on urban density. Some ideas that were raised. Talk is on PS21 website.

- 1. Carbon footprint varies by density, need to have denser cities to hit Paris Accord**
- 2. Large resources debating one or two stories but we need more fundamental thinking**
- 3. City code limits – we don't have enough density to make strong infrastructure advancements meaningful. [new city ordinance in place to encourage some mixed density]**

ii. Vote was taken to see who would be interested in density planning

iii. Note city has a master plan

iv. Currently at 2008 building code

4. Letter regarding plastic Straws

i. Encourage new ideas for letters. Bring ideas/draft for consensus. JD suggested highlighting the new website when it is up. BC: The tone was good-brought awareness without proselytizing. Possible in the future letter re natural turf alternatives.

5. Handprint Party, Sustainability Alliance

i. May 10th Skip the Straw. BC is meeting with Blue Ocean Society to get information. Will take a systems approach, for example using compostable straws which could have unintended consequences. JK: Rye Elementary School is doing similar work.

6. City Website

i. Bring ideas for next meeting for the city website sustainability page. *Add to agenda for next meeting.

7. Sustainable Seacoast

i. Keith and Kate Tharp encouraging local restaurants to eliminate single use plastics. JD suggests meeting with Ecoclub to leverage their work.

8. Hodgson Brook

i. Josh brought daylighting of Hodgson Brook-put in 6 year capital plan

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Note for this meeting: **EcoClub facilitating Tracy taking minutes**

Next meeting:

Add city website to agenda

Facilitator: Tracey

Minutes: John