

Meeting Minutes

Weston Sustainability Committee

June 4, 2019

Sustainability Committee Members	Present	Sustainability Committee Members	Present
Phoebe Beierle (PB) Perm. Bldg. Com Rep	Yes	Rachael Stewart (RS) School Com. Rep	No
Member at Large - TBD		Sandy Kendall (SK) Member at Large	Yes
Leslie Glynn (LG) Planning Board Rep	Yes	Katharina Wilkins (KW) – Chair, BoS rep	Yes
Victor Guzman (VG) Member at Large	No		

No.	Description	Action
1.	Residents: Laurie Bent, BoS; Jeff Barz-Snell, community and SWAG member	
2.	Agenda Agenda included	
3.	Conversation with Selectmember Bent Laurie outlined some of her sustainability priorities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water conservation Need to lead/guide/encourage cultural change to a new aesthetic (less golf-course like lawns); can we lower fluoride level; use a showy project like town center to model the right behavior, “Walk the walk” • Pay-As-You-Throw (PAYT) The issue will be back, owing to changing waste management landscape. More public engagement/input before rollout. • PLPA (public land preservation act) Bill has been filed many times, never made it yet but getting closer. In short, if a town removes land from conservation protection, has to set aside an equal amount. 	ALL
4.	Intro of SusCom activities and goals to Selectmember Bent Review of our charge What we’ve learned: lots of grant money available (Green Communities, MVP, MAPC and other sources) but often on short notice. Making effective use of grants would be easier if the Town were to hire a sustainability manager on staff who could stay ahead of opportunities and liaise with other towns. Neighboring towns have created such positions. Another SusCom priority is the establishment of a Sustainability Action Plan (SAP) to outline the town’s baseline, goals, metrics and a path in the form of action items. This is part of the SusCom charge and improve effective cooperation with other committees and town departments by being aligned on strategic goals. Latest news: KW and Leon Gaumond learned of a grant needing application before our next meeting: successfully solicited \$6,000 for energy data analysis and clean energy planning.	ALL
5.	Update from PBC PB attended first Permanent Building Committee in new role as committee liaison. PB had talked about solar project at Field School—OK’d. PB had provided a helpful document to help with vetting proposed solar projects to PBC for review awhile back but now it’s back in her hands to compare against the proposed contract. PBC had some legal changes. School committee approved.	PB

6.	<p>SusCom Letter to Town Center Redesign Implementation Committee</p> <p>Sus Com has been working on a letter to suggest priorities for the town center redesign implementation. Particular topics of interest include landscaping (reducing water use), bike racks and signage for bike path, EV charging stations.</p> <p>Co-signing with SWAG was discussed and the final decision was made to thank SWAG in SusCom letter for their cooperation and help with reviewing plan documents and making suggestions, but sign from SusCom, thus leaving an opening for SWAG to submit their own letter to have greater impact.</p>	SK, PB
7.	<p>MVP Grant</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Still haven't heard about grant award. 2. PB talked with Kim Lundgren re: engineering partners. Worked with CDM Smith. She'll share resume of engineer from VHB. 3. A vote was taken to confirm SusCom's original intention of working with KLA (who will subcontract with VHB) in collaboration with the local Charles River Watershed Association (CRWA). 4. Assuming we get the grant in early summer, work with Lundgren probably would happen in Sept/Oct. 5. Members satisfied by engineering resources Lundgren brings. 6. Next action grant possibility in August—too soon for us. Maybe go for spring round. 	KW PB
8.	<p>Next meetings</p> <p>Upcoming meetings are currently scheduled for 6/11, 7/16, 9/5 (a Thursday) and 9/17</p>	

Respectfully submitted: Sandy Kendall