



Sustainability Committee

Minutes

August 6, 2018

6pm – Municipal Annex, Room C

Attendance:

Phil LeBlanc, Joanne Petersen, Christine Maher, Emily Roy, Mark Broski

Aldermen:

Guests: Cathy Canning, Sally Fulmer, Julia Schaeffer, Barbara Dillon, and Ron Beattie

1. Minutes
 - a. July 2 meeting minutes were approved.
 - b. July 16 special meeting minutes were approved.
2. Actionable Items from Sustainability Plan—Emily Roy presented a few options from the Sustainability Plan for the Committee to follow through that may not have been completed. Of the options presented, pursuing LEED Silver designation requirements for new City-owned facilities was selected. Emily will work on gathering information about it and will report back to the group at a future meeting.
3. Businesses Who Care—Christine Maher communicated with Linda Norris-Waltz about her efforts to create a green business registry. Maher stated that the current set-up is informal and not proactive. She said that her research into other communities, such as Montgomery County's program through the Chamber of Commerce may be a better approach because it is linked to national recognition. Christine will continue to research it and will likely present a model for the group to use at the December meeting.

4. Litter Ordinance—Guest Julia Schaeffer from NAC 11 presented background information about proposed changes to the City’s litter ordinance. The group submitted a letter with a request to the Mayor and Board of Aldermen to hold property owners responsible for litter-free sidewalks and parking lots. Julia asked for the Committee’s support for the proposal via a letter to the Mayor and Board of Aldermen. There also was discussion about redefining litter to include cigarette butts and tobacco waste products.

Phil LeBlanc made a motion for the Committee to draft a letter to the Mayor and Board specifically to request clarification and updating of City code for who is responsible for litter pick-up. Emily Roy and Joanne Petersen seconded. All were in favor of this motion.

Phil LeBlanc made a motion for the Committee to draft a letter to the Mayor and Board specifically requesting that property owners be required to clean up litter on their sidewalks. There were no seconds. The topic was tabled until September for further discussion.

5. Quarterly Community Engagement—Mark Broski sent a framework for drafting a formal project idea and requesting funds set aside for the Committee and Sustainability Department to spend on sustainability-related projects. The outline will serve as a guideline for discussion. Mark asked that Committee members review the framework and come back in September with questions. Mark would like this to be the framework for the proposed recycling project with the county. (See attached)

Christine asked to table the discussion regarding the possible partnership with Middletown because there was no longer a quorum as several members had to leave early for other meetings. This item was tabled and will be included on the September agenda.

6. Subcommittee Discussions—Joanne Petersen reported that SkyStage is interested in eliminating plastic at the venue, however, the weather has made things very difficult for SkyStage and the Frederick Arts Council this year so they would like to discuss planning for next year’s events.
7. Carbon Neutral 2050—Mark Broski asked to table this item until September.
8. Next Meeting to be determined. Jenny will send out Doodle Poll.
9. No other public comment.
10. Meeting adjourned