

MEETING MINUTES
Sustainable Sharon Coalition Monthly Meeting
Wednesday, February 2, 2022 7:00 - 8:30 PM
Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/3524688267>

In attendance: Marlene Arnold, Ellen Bordman, Megan Burnett, Eve Carey, Molli Denrich, Danielle Dupre, Kathy Farrell, Ralph Halpern, Zobia Imam, Judy Karlin, Paul Lauenstein, Guoqiang Li, Michael Littman, Rory McGregor, Kathi Mirza, Kellie O'Shea, Michael Pierce, Charlotte Pototsky, Laura Henze Russell, Cheryl Schnitzer, Dave Slater, Maggie Sullivan, Hanna Switekowski, Rosemary Tambouret, Debbie Tatro, Jan Sargent Tracy, Sandra Widland, Alice Zaniewski

1. Welcome: Cheryl led in reading the Vision Statement: *we inspire, educate, connect, and catalyze our community to protect the planet.* Please Join Us! and encourage your family and friends to do so as well. Reminder about being mindful of SSC word of the year. (Was stated to be “reconsider” but is actually “**reimagine.**”)
2. Secretary’s Report (Marlene): December and January minutes were accepted.
3. SSC Interest Group breakout rooms and reports:
 - a. Energy (Ralph): Main activity is regarding Eversource and pipeline proposal. Last week they were asked a lot of questions, so as we get plans and details we will share them with the town. Also want to work with the town’s Energy Advisory committee to see if there is a way to set goals, and in general what we can do locally to reduce energy use.
 - b. Zero Waste (Debbie): It is Eve Carey’s last week - Eve accepted a new position in Ashland. We will be working with HS students and restaurants on campaign to educate on reusables and avoiding styrofoam and black containers. Also about PFAS food testing and asking customers before including plastic utensils. We reviewed legislation that might call for a letter writing campaign.
 - c. Water (Laura): Happy to have Kellie join the group. We had a good strategy discussion on how we can get the town to pay attention to the Lake. Town is good at focusing on drinking water but what about the Lake and groundwater? No single organization has that responsibility. We need someone or some group to take that responsibility on.
 - d. Website redesign (Megan): We divided the project into 3 areas: technical, design and content. Looking for a good photographer for Sharon-based pictures in addition to the stock photos that will be there. May reach out to the High School.
 - e. Sharon Green Day (Rosemary): First meeting on Monday Feb 7. We can potentially have space at SMS. Another option is Deborah Sampson Park tennis courts (would need

- to rent a big tent). Aiming for Sunday May 1. Cheryl reminded everyone it's also our 10th anniversary. It would be nice to have a diverse group and work with different religious and ethnic groups in town. Please attend Monday's meeting if interested.
- f. Food (Alice): Environmental class project - What can we do for future change to Sharon High School? Would be great to add composting to the High School (maybe go with Black Earth). Suggestion to look at Hingham HS who holds competition to oversee that composting is being done that way it should.
 - g. Transportation (Mike): Sharon has received a Complete Streets funding grant to remove sidewalk bricks that are non-ADA-compliant. Cottage was awarded \$450K to create sidewalks and our group helped with the application. We are applying for a Sharon Streets and Sharing grant to allocate rental bikes for touring around town. One docking would be at the train station and another at the community center.
4. Liaison reports:
- 350 Mass greater Franklin node (Ralph): In our newsletter there was a request to sign a card asking the Baker Administration to change the MassSave program to push away from fossil fuels to heat pumps, etc. Busy time at the statehouse.
5. Other business
- a. High School Senior Sustainability Award - Sandra spoke to Nivedi who said we're on track to do this. Also, Sandra added a link to please consider nominating a worthy candidate for the Lynn Wolbarst Sustainability Award. Application is here: <https://forms.gle/4Mn1ez6VUz676dVT8>
 - b. Open positions include fundraising, photographer, membership, roving reporter.
 - c. Want to connect with houses of worship and other groups in town to increase racial and ethnic diversity to reflect Sharon demographics (e.g. Green Day)
6. Next Meetings
- SSC Green Day meeting, Monday, February 7th, 7:30 PM via Zoom
 - SSC General meetings: Wednesday, March 2nd, 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM, at the Sharon Community Center starting in March
7. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Minutes submitted by Marlene Arnold