

MEETING MINUTES

Sustainable Sharon Coalition General Meeting

Wednesday, May 4, 2022, 7:00 - 8:30 PM

IN PERSON: Sharon Community Center, Town Hearing Room

Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/3524688267>

In attendance: Xander Shapiro, Kiana Pierre-Louis, Dan Lewenberg, Sam Liao, Cheryl Schnitzer, Ellen Bordman, Charlotte Pototsky, Dr. Ricky Stern, Laura Henze Russell, Ralph Halpern, Molli Denrich, Rory McGregor, Judy Karlin, Debbie Tatro, Megan, Kellie O'Shea, Dave Slater, Simone Tamkin, Alice Zaniewski, Eve Carey, John Pepin, Rita, Hana Jenner, Michael Littman, Helen Poynton, Sam Aylesworth

- Welcome: Cheryl recited the Vision Statement: We inspire, educate, connect, and catalyze our community to protect the planet. Please click "[Join Us!](#)" on the website and encourage your family and friends to do so as well.
- Secretary's Report (Charlotte Pototsky filling in for Marlene Arnold): April minutes were accepted.
- Select Board Candidates Xander Shapiro, Kiana Pierre-Louis, Dan Lewenberg and Sam Liao shared their environmental sustainability goals and visions. The candidates answered questions written by SSC members. Their [written responses may be found here](#).
- SSC Interest Group reports
 - a. Food (Alice) - Sustainable cooking class held on zoom to promote vegan and vegetarian meals.
 - b. Transportation (Mike) - Contacted town to install and expand bike lanes in town. Working with SSC Kids to hold a community bike ride.
 - c. Energy (Ralph) - SSC's website currently has information about (1) Community Solar with a link to Relay Power and (2) Mass Save Free Home Energy Assessment with a link to HomeWorks. There are new developments to address: (1) Sharon's [Energy Advisory Committee](#) now promotes Relay Power for clean energy and efficiency programs; and (2) Sharon now participates in Mass Save's [Community First Partnership \(CFP\)](#) to provide cost-saving energy efficiency solutions to residents and small businesses in our communities. We will invite Julie Barbour-Issa, Energy Advocate, for Norwood, Sharon and Walpole to an upcoming SSC meeting.
 - d. Youth (Charlotte) - Tree planting was a huge success! Continuing work with clubs at the high school and resume Skip The Stuff.
 - e. Awards (Sandra) - Lynn Wolbarst Sustainability Award - David Berger received the LWSA. The High school award is still accepting nominations.
 - f. Sharon Green Day - May 7, 2023 (please consider helping out!)
 - g. Education (Cheryl)

- SSC/SREA Book Group - [The Intersectional Environmentalist](#) by Leah Thomas, Monday, May 23rd, at 7:00 PM, Community Center, Town Hearing Room (Cheryl)
 - Invest for the Planet (Karen) hopes to return this summer. Reach out if you are interested.
- h. Zero Waste - Eve is back with SSC and as the SPS/Town Recycling Coordinator! Working on getting more reusables in the schools. Each single-use tray will be replaced with a reusable tray. More projects coming soon, e.g., *swap events* could be underway!
- i. Lake clean up and Water Committee (Laura and Rory) - Cyanobacteria training May 7, 10:00 am - 1:00 pm. Litter clean-up and limiting Japanese knotweed event on June 11.
- k. Sam Aylesworth - reached out and attended SSC meeting to discuss the possibility of a town leafblower ban.
- Liaison reports

Ralph Halpern: 350 Mass - Gas companies were asked how to achieve the state's goals around environmental protection. They have discussed *biogas*, but this is not satisfactory to environmentalists.
 - Other updates and notable information
 - SSC Board meeting: Monday, May 9th (later changed to May 16th), 7:00 - 8:30 PM
 - SSC Annual Meeting: Wednesday, June 1st, 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM
 - Meeting adjourned about 8:30 PM.

Minutes submitted by Charlotte Pototsky