

ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES
Sustainable Sharon Coalition General Meeting
Wednesday, June 1, 2022, 7:00 - 8:30 PM
IN PERSON: Sharon Community Center, Town Hearing Room
Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/3524688267>

In attendance: Marlene Arnold, Ellen Bordman, Megan Burnett, Molli Denrich, Danielle Dupre, Ralph Halpern, Tim Humphreys, Judy Lehrer Jacobs, Shelley Keimach, Guoquiang Li, Michael Littman, Rory McGregor, Kellie OShea, John Pepin, Charlotte Pototsky, David Pototsky, Rebecca Raub, Cheryl Schnitzer, Xander Shapiro, David Slater, Patrice Stering, Ricky Stern, Maggie Sullivan

1. Welcome: Cheryl led the group in reciting the Mission Statement: We inspire, educate, connect, and catalyze our community to protect the planet. She reminded everyone to renew their membership for 2022-23 by clicking "[Join Us!](#)" on the website. Members brainstormed ideas for new "Word of the year" and voted at the end of the meeting for "**Reconnect**" to be the 2022-23 word of the year.
2. Secretary's Report (Marlene): May minutes were accepted. Marlene proposed an idea to do away with monthly meeting minutes. The monthly meetings focus on educational presentations and sharing ideas; Since there's no real "business" being performed there's less of a need for formal minutes. Board meetings and Annual Meeting will continue to have formal minutes. Informal notes may be taken instead as needed. Special Interest Group (SIG) leaders should track any volunteer signups or notes from break-out sessions. New initiatives can be recorded via a shared Google doc (e.g. Strategic Document). Events and highlights will continue to be communicated via eNewsletter and social media. Members mentioned that they like the current meeting format and sharing of status verbally. This can be continued with updates only given if there's something new to report..
3. Motion to ratify the revisions to the Bylaws that were voted in by the Board in November 2021. Motion passed unanimously.
4. Motion to approve the slate of officers and board members for 2022-23 passed unanimously. 2022-23 Board is as follows:

President: Cheryl Schnitzer

Vice President: Maggie Sullivan

Treasurer: David Slater

Secretary/Clerk: Marlene Arnold

Board Members: Ellen Bordman, Molli Denrich, Paul Lauenstein, Guoquiang Li, Mike Littman, Kathi Mirza, Helen Poynton, Rebecca Raub, Ricky Stern, Simone Tamkin, Debbie Tatro

Sandra Widland and Kathy Farrel are leaving the board and were thanked for their service. Ellen Bordman was thanked for her service as VP.

5. Awards: High School Senior Sustainability Runner-up award presented to Elisa Van Dijk for her work with Sunrise Blue Hills and working toward environmental justice. Other award winners Grace Miller-Trabold and Benjamin Levinson will be presented with their awards next month.

Cheryl presented certificates to SSC members who went above and beyond:

- Ellen Bordman who filled various rolls whenever needed
 - Megan Burnett, Marlene Arnold, Danielle Dupre and David Slater for their work on the new website and other contributions
6. SSC Standing Committee and Special Interest Group vacancies: Cheryl asked for members to fill in various needed positions
 - Communities, Interfaith, Multicultural - Ricky will lead a speaker series
 - Green Day - Xander taking lead
 - Zero Waste - Cheryl and Rebecca will share lead
 - Strategic Planning - Marlene and Mike will share lead
 7. Special Interest Group reports and plans for the coming year:
 - SSC Kids (Patrice) - 4 children gave a wonderful presentation on past year of SSC Kids activities (e.g., clean ups, art projects, farming, pollinator garden). SSC Kids will be going to see Box Truck film on July 14th (rest of SSC will hopefully join as well). They suggested an upcycle art project for Green Day.
 - Transportation (Mike) - Ran 2 bike rides, gave UU Meeting House talk, awarded the Massachusetts Safe Routes to School grant, and worked on bike lanes on S. Main street. Future plans include installing a new bike rack, more bike rides, and continuing to work with the town on the Bike Lane project. Would like to see "Open Streets" for Green Day and getting more students involved in initiatives.
 - Energy (Ralph) - Monitoring the Eversource Brockton-Sharon Pipeline project and will plan to speak up at any upcoming hearings. Working locally with Sharon's Energy Advisory committee to better coordinate shared initiatives. Would like to see us create "Yesterday/Today/Tomorrow" stats for Green Day.
 - Youth (Charlotte) - Spent past year building up the group to about 7 members who meet regularly and collaborate with SHS Environmental and Restoring our Oceans groups. Past events included cleanups, movie nights, tree planting (over \$1,000 raised). Perhaps plan a litter scavenger hunt for SSC's 10th anniversary.
 - Lake Cleanup (Rory) - Working with Sharon Conservation Administrator, Josh Philibert,. Ongoing effort to get rid of invasive species such as Japanese Knotweed around lake. Next cleanup Sat., June 11, 8:30 AM - Noon. Perhaps Josh or Peg Arguimbau, Chair of Sharon Conservation Commission, can speak at future meeting.
 8. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Minutes submitted by Marlene Arnold (with assistance from Charlotte Pototsky)