

MEETING MINUTES
Sustainable Sharon Coalition Monthly Meeting
Wednesday, August 4, 2021, 7:00 - 8:30 PM
Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/3524688267>

In attendance: Aneeza Ahmad, Marlene Arnold, Ellen Bordman, Megan Burnett, Eve Carey, Norman Cory, Rita Corey, Artie Crocker, Molli Denrich, Zobia Imam, Judy Jacobs, Judy Karlin, Paul Lauenstein, Bri McAlevey, Rory McGregor, Kathi Mirza, Ted Philips, Charlotte Pototsky, Helen Poynton, Laura Henze Russell, Jan Sargent-Tracy, Cheryl Schnitzer, Karen Shapiro, Dave Slater, Hanna Switekowski, Rosemary Tambouret, Debbie Tatro, Emily Whitney, Alice Zaniewski

1. Welcome:
 - a. Aneeza recited the Vision Statement for the group: *we inspire, educate, connect, and catalyze our community to protect the planet.*
 - b. State Representative, Ted Philips, gave a quick update on some bills of interest to SSC. On a local note, there's a government PFAS task force looking at remediation - hoping to get some funding to help with Well#4.
 - c. Select Board Member, Hanna Switekowski gave a quick update on town issues of interest to SSC.
2. July minutes were distributed but will wait until next month to accept in order to give members more time to review.
3. Treasurer's Report (Dave): We have a balance of \$8,500. Regular expenses are only \$40/month (for zoom and mailchimp). This has allowed us to use funds to support tree plantings, SSC Kids and work on a new logo.
4. Cheryl reported that we have a new SSC logo being designed to celebrate SSC's 10th anniversary in 2022. She also reminded everyone to go to the website to formally join under the new Membership form.
5. Old and New Business
 - a. Update on Sharon's progress with remediating for PFAS in Well #4 (Rory): The resin filter went online in July. Water being pumped is being treated and meeting town needs. Looking at sources for PFAS.
 - b. Sharon Day (Ellen): It's taking the place of Square Jam on Oct 3rd. SSC should have a booth (\$50/table). Need ideas of what we can provide/do:
 - Promote composting, recycling, membership signup.

- Make a game of what can be recycled/trash - good way to get kids engaged.
 - Eve would love to get involved with this either through her own booth or in collaboration with SSC.
- c. Sharon Conservation Day (Rosemary): 2 conservation days scheduled for Sept 11-12. We can (and should) have a table.
- Garden Club would like to come to one of our meetings and find out more about composting/recycling and where to donate items.

6. SSC Interest Group Breakout Rooms/Reports

- a. Food (Alice Zaniewski): Talked about why it's important, educating about meat products, planning event to make seitan, hope to reach out to other committees for composting and to kids about gardening
- b. Zero Waste (Debbie Tatro): Have accomplished a lot from last year's list. Future goals include: educating restaurants about reducing plastic utensils, working with Eve, partnering with farms and restaurants (with food committee), working with restaurants and stores to donate food waste
- c. SSC Invest for the Planet (Paul Lauenstein): With clean energy comes economic opportunities, using our investment \$ to accelerate the change, reviewed screening tool (spreadsheet) to choose companies that share our values
- d. Trees and Plants (Rosemary Tambouret): Education - various apps are available to identify plants, training through Blue Hills to use app and recognize invasive species, event to remove invasives around the lake, partnering with other groups to achieve mutual objectives
- e. Lake Health (Laura Henze Russell): Need to reinvigorate efforts in this area, addressing lawn fertilizer runoff and individual septic systems, we know we have allies working on invasive species and solid waste

7. Liaison Reports

- MCAN (Judy Jacobs): Heidi from Mass Audubon presented on undeveloped and unprotected land. If they keep up pace, 25% of development will be ground mounted solar. Should be looking to roof and parking lots first before putting on open land. Needs to be a plan to look at this to develop solar but protect the most sensitive land.

8. Other Business:

- a. Mosquito Spraying (Helen): State has begun spraying synthetic insecticide that is not organic and very harmful to the aquatic environment. Helen joined the state's "Mosquito Control for the 21st Century Task Force" to complete a study on mosquito control practices in the state. Hoping the task force can help make the process easier for towns to opt out of spraying.

- b. Charlotte is our new Youth Chair (and passing on baton for Roving Reporter). We say goodbye to Aneeza but hopefully can pop into meetings from time to time.

9. Next Meetings

- General Meeting: Wednesday, September 1, 2021, 7:00 - 8:30 PM, by Zoom.
- SSC Board Meeting: Wednesday, September 29, 2021, 7:00 - 8:30 PM, by Zoom

10. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Minutes submitted by Marlene Arnold