

MINUTES ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE 03-01-2023

Location: Virtual (via Zoom)

Participants:

- Members Present: Debbie Bentley (chair), Bob Zogg, Eric Balles, Launa Zimmaro, Joeth Barlas, Dan Cook, Glenn Reed, Christina Christodouloupoulos
- Members Absent: David Boettcher
- Non-Members Present: Sue Thomas, Barney Arnold, Jeremy Behrle, Kath Hardcastle

Summary of Action Items:

Description	Resp.
Reaching out to landscaping companies using electric equipment	Eric and Glenn
ESC blog this month to include EV info from Eric	Joeth
How to make governance presentation less boring	Launa
Possibility of including information on renewable energy sources at one table	Sue
CITW post seeking volunteers regarding solar, day of, etc	Debbie
Determination of Dave's availability to participate in RTSD, will he cover weatherization and possibly serve as back-up contact for HomeWorks Energy Specific, pre-authored outreach templates	Bob Joeth and Christina
Budget spreadsheet	Bob and Christina
Reaching out to Ms Hammer regarding student volunteers	Launa
List of volunteers from TSAC	Dan
Confirmation of participants to Christina by March 10 (HomeWorks Energy excluded)	All
Consideration of school assembly content for future discussion	All
Tent organization	Barney
Reaching out to churches and library for event parking	Christina
Invitation to all committees and departments	Christina
Preliminary table plan	Debbie
Reaching out to Fern's for boxed lunches	Barney

1.Call to Order and Public Input

- Christina called meeting to order at 4:33pm
- Public Input: Jeremy Behrle, 47 Hart Farm Rd, seeking input regarding replacing lights in Corey Auditorium. He will submit info to Sue for discussion at future meeting. Members suggested he look into Green Communities grant to cover a portion of the cost.

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2. Discussion of Route to Sustainability Day planning

i. Energy exhibits

- Christina is still concerned there are gaps. ESC people tabling include Sue, Launa, Eric on transportation, Bob, Debbie on embodied carbon. Glenn is tabling for Friends of Bruce Freeman Rail Trail.
- For the electric yard equipment petting zoo, Eric will reach out to neighboring commercial business regarding battery powered equipment.
- Glenn will find out information on Chelmsford landscaper with all electric equipment. Mass Save offers incentives on electric lawn equipment.
- Launa suggested to have a presentation by the landscaper in future.
- Christina mentioned Tower Hill maintains gardens with electric equipment.
- Joeth is writing a blog for this month and will reach out to Eric regarding EVs.
- Launa will present on Governance, may have a poster with QR code. She is worried the topic is boring.
- Bob estimated Westford's 2022 Earth Day event had 200-300 people and Chelmsford's had 75-100 guests. He thinks Carlisle will do well to have 100-200 attend. He feels there needs to be a balance between the number of exhibitors and attendees.
- Discussion took place about what size the event should be. Christina sees no harm in planning for a larger attendance. Launa indicated that a sufficient attendance is needed to justify student efforts in preparing exhibits.
- Launa mentioned the goal is to build a core constituency in Carlisle for support in environmental sustainability and the focus should be on attracting Carlisle residents to the event.
- Dave has previously volunteered to cover weatherization and is the connection to HomeWorks Energy.
- Christina mentioned residential solar still needs to be covered, as well as weatherization, incentives, energy assessment and information on the solar canopy and EV charging station.
- Bob thought all aspects of renewable energy should be on one table: community solar, buying green electricity through the grid, onsite solar for the home and Community Choice Aggregation. He asked if Sue could cover all this at one table.
- Eric, although tabling for transportation, is willing to give a testimonial on solar.
- Debbie said she can post on City in the Woods to ask people to help table on solar.
- Sue stated there is chatter regarding end of life of installed solar panels so questions might arise. She suggests setting up guidance in response.
- Bob can be the contact for HomeWorks Energy if Dave is okay with that and can confirm with Dave the extent of Dave's participation.
- Members discussed voting on HomeWorks Energy participation but potential partnership needs to be cleared by Town Administrator first, then by the Select Board. Bob suggested that the ESC and Select Board consider whether the committee can a) preferentially steer residents to HomeWorks Energy while b) being fully open and honest with residents about their options for installing weatherization and heat pumps.

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ii. Publicity

- Dan suggested all participating committees promote event.
- Joeth recommended having pre-authored templates on specific topics on website that people can use to invite friends. She will help with this.
- Christina mentioned Schools, PTO, Library, Town newsletter, COAHS newsletter are a few promotional outlets already being used.

iii. Budget

- Members discussed using a professional for cooking demo (spend the money or don't do it at all). The advantage of having a professional is that she will take care of the whole process, bring supplies and information why a low carbon diet is advocated. There is no bandwidth to organize volunteer residents to do the demos. Members decided to spend the \$525 and go with the professional.
- Bob volunteered to work with Christina to set up a budget spreadsheet.
- Christina said DPW and FRS tables and chairs will be used, additional tables and chairs will be rented for Solar canopy exhibitors.
- Joeth mentioned Marilyn Cugini handled Old Home Days budget and could help.
- Christina indicated that the RTSD budget is \$8600 (\$8000 from the ARPA grant and \$600 from the Cultural Council grant.) ESC has permission to use unspent ARPA grant funds for continued community outreach beyond RTSD.

iv. Volunteers

- Sources can include posting on City in the Woods and students via the Concord Carlisle High School website (Volunteer Too).
- Bob reminded that student volunteers will need direction.
- Launa reminded that student community service hours need a form to sign off on. She got no response through the website. She will connect with Ms. Hammer at CCHS to help coordinate student volunteers.
- Dan will get a list of volunteers from the Transfer Station Action Committee.

v. Additional topics

- Christina suggested March 10th be a cut off date for participants to be confirmed. There may be a need to extend past this date for energy exhibitors and, if so, members will update the status to Christina by that date.
- Christina requested members think about content for school assembly on environmental sustainability.
- Barney will work on obtaining tents. She will organize the delivery and pick-up of them. She can also help on the day of the event with setting up and striking.
- Barney mentioned it is fine to set up tables and chairs the night before. She will check whether Town insurance covers potential loss of tables and chairs, loss might come out of the budget.
- It was decided that the window for exhibitors to set up will be from 8:30am to 9:40am. Christina will include this information in the reminders email, along with advice to allow time to park vehicle and walk back to the venue.

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- Christina will reach out to churches to request the use of their parking lots for attendees.
- Perhaps the Library parking area can be designated for disabled parking.
- The members decided to invite the all committees and departments. Christina will get the list from Jenn Gibbons and Julie Mercer and will get the invite blurb to Jenn for distribution.
- Sue will also mention the event at the land chair meeting on March 10th.
- Christina will respond to Julie Mercier's checklist.
- Debbie will draw up a preliminary table plan to submit to police, Town Hall and for volunteer set-up.
- Christina has reached out to Police Department inquiring about closing School Street in front of Union Hall.
- Christina has reached out to food vendors but all is still pending. Emphasis is placed on low carbon food.
- Barney will reach out to Ferns regarding box lunch participation.

Next Meeting: March 9, 2023 at 4:30pm

Adjournment:

- Eric Balles moved to adjourn.
- Debbie Bentley seconded.
- Christina Christodouloupoulos adjourned meeting at 5:47pm

Minutes:

- Minutes prepared and submitted by Christina Christodouloupoulos
- Minutes approved by the CESC on March 9, 2023

Attachments:

- Zoom chat:

16:33:09 From Jeremy Behrle : Jeremy Behrle, [47 Hart Farm Rd.](#)

16:37:14 From Susan Thomas : stthomas@carlislema.gov

16:41:30 From Barney Arnold : I ran into Dave Boetcher at the library on my way home to this meeting and he asked me to send his regrets that he's not able to make today's meeting. He was with his children.

16:45:25 From Jeremy Behrle : I own a battery powered Stihl chainsaw & blower, would be happy to bring to a show & tell.

16:45:46 From Deborah Bentley : Excellent Jeremy , your booked.

16:45:48 From Susan Thomas : Thank you Jeremy, that would be awesome, I think.

16:47:12 From Jeremy Behrle : (And a battery powered Toro snow blower)

16:47:23 From dancook : I also have an electric chain saw

16:49:52 From Eric Balles : all electric lawn care: Eco Quiet, George Carrette

16:57:43 From Deborah Bentley : <https://esc-carlisle.weebly.com/earth-day.html>

17:01:13 From Deborah Bentley : And we have a solar powered pump on wheels to borrow

17:06:08 From Susan Thomas : Happy St David's Day!

17:06:40 From Kath : ooh dydd gwyl dewi!

17:20:35 From Launa Zimmaro : How many tables do we need??

17:24:06 From Deborah Bentley : The CCHS has a website that you can put a notice in for volunteers

17:27:24 From Launa Zimmaro : Did the Cocanours not come through on tents, etc?

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17:30:52 From Deborah Bentley : We have a Land Chairs meeting on the 10th

17:37:01 From Kath : I have to get on the bike home! I volunteer for all set up/directing set up stuff... I'll also connect with Christina off line for more tasks to help with..

17:37:24 From Susan Thomas : Have a safe ride, Kath!

17:37:32 From Kath : byee