

**Sustainability Committee
Tuesday, May 21, 2019 at 6:30 pm
Town Hall, 40 Center Street
Fairhaven, Massachusetts**

1. Chairperson Deirdre Healy opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m. and informed the public that the meeting was being televised and recorded.
2. **Attendance:** Deidre Healy, Susan Spooner, Wendy Drumm, Denise Barr, Anne O'Brien and Karen Gent and Sustainability Coordinator Whitney McClees was present. **Absent:** Marcus Ferro and Ann Richard.

At this time, each member introduced themselves.

3. Approval of Minutes of April 16, 2019 meeting

*** Approval of minutes of April 16, 2019 meeting was tabled until next meeting.*

4. Payment of Bills:

Anne O'Brien made a motion to pay \$3500.00 to Punchard Consulting for preparing application, seconded by Susan Spooner, this motion passed unanimously.

Anne O'Brien made a motion to pay \$287.56 to Whitney McClees for reimbursement for EcoChallenge gift bags, seconded by Susan Spooner, this motion passed unanimously.

** Bills were passed around for all members to sign.*

5. Drawdown Eco Challenge

Whitney McClees explained the contents of the gift bags

Deirdre Healy explained that the Committee ranked 8th in the world in the EcoChallenge.

Discussion regarding where to find a copy of *Drawdown*.

a. Raffle prizes drawing

Brief discussion regarding when to draw the winners.

At this time, Whitney McClees drew the winning names

The winner of the \$ 75.00 basket was participant Anne O'Brien in which she explained she will be donating the gift basket to Mrs. Gilbert's second grade class from Leroy Wood School

The winner of the \$100.00 gift basket was participant Ann Richard.

The winner of the \$ 125.00 gift basket was participant Jean Lawlor.

6. Sustainability Committee Charge Update

Whitney McClees provided an update of the Sustainability Charge. She explained what the updates entail regarding how alternates and memberships are handled within the committee pertaining to quorum purposes. She then asked if there were any other suggested changes to the charge.

Unrelated discussion ensued.

Anne O'Brien made a motion to approve and forward draft of Charge to Board of Selectmen for final approval, Seconded by Denise Barr, this motion passed unanimously.

7. Fairhaven Community Garden Clearing Project – Consult: May 29 at 1pm

Whitney McClees provided an update and brought the members up to speed regarding the quotes that were received from the potential farms. She explained that at the last meeting the members had voted to go move forward with Round the Bend Farm due to the educational aspect of it. They also agreed to do a free consultation at middle school with Ms. McClees and Lisa Elliott from Fairhaven Community Garden to explain what the process entails.

Discussion ensued.

8. Grants Update/Discussion

Whitney McClees provided an in-depth update regarding Grants. She explained Municipality Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) Planning Grant, allows the Town to apply for action grants once MVP designation is received and Green Communities, the town was designated green community back in December in which five bench marks to be met. The Town was awarded \$174,535.00 grant to implement a few projects for energy reduction like the Rec Center, Council on Aging and then she continued to explain that she had the opportunity to get information from the state and the grants are moving forward. She also explained that she is working with the DPW about writing a Coastal Pollution Remediation Grant which focuses on upgrading the Stormwater on Bernese Street to become a facility to treat the stormwater before it goes into the Bay.

Discussion regarding stormwater practices.

Mrs. Healy explained that there are many grants out there and if Ms. McClees needed any assistance in obtaining information regarding these grants. Ms. McClees explained that working with the Board of Health would be beneficial with this process.

9. Sustainability Committee Logo

Ms. Healy explained that the high school students had created and had sent over logo options to Ms. McClees in which Ms. McClees passed around the board.

Discussion regarding possibly sending the students some paper straws as a token of gratitude. Ms. Healy explained that it will be best for any decisions to be made at the next meeting.

Discussion ensued.

10. Fall Sustainability Fair Discussion

Mrs. Healy explained the concept of the Sustainability Fair and if the commission was interested in organizing one in Fairhaven.

Discussion regarding the best season to hold the fair and what things should be addressed at the fair to educate the public.

Discussion regarding a date and location for the fair.

Discussion ensued.

11. General Business

Brief update on the straw band.

Discussion regarding the Sustainability Committee's Next meeting on June 18, 2019 at 6:30 p.m

Anne O'Brien made a motion to adjourn at 7:32p.m. Seconded by Ms. Healy, this motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Shallyn Rodriguez
Recording Secretary