

## SUSTAINABILITY SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

May 9, 2023

Present: John Schindler, Tom Castile, Natalie Schnieder, Molly Salinas, Debra Baesemann and, by phone, Nicci Sternitzky

1. Call meeting to order: Meeting brought to order at 6:33pm.
2. Introductions: members introduced themselves to the group
3. Overview of Committee: Deb stated that as a new committee there are many directions the committee can go, but current projects include looking at a solar installation at the Recycling center, town compost, pursuing grant options to support town sustainability projects. Group discussion proceeded on solar ideas including solar panels by the pool. John pointed out that the village well is by the pool house and could potentially be powered. John also asked about EV vehicles for town. Tom asked about personal car chargers. Natalie said Tesla has looked at putting in a car charger in Brookfield. John pointed out we are getting off topic. Decision to move on to next agenda item.
4. Election of Co-Chairs – Molly Salinas and Debra Baesemann elected to be Co-Chairs of the Committee by unanimous vote.
5. Discuss possible project ideas:
  - a. Improving composting options within the Village. One option is to look at ways to expand the reach of the existing private companies that service our area. Over 20% of our existing trash is comprised of food waste, according to the trash audit completed in April 2023. If all or a portion of this was diverted out of the waste stream, it would help reduce garbage fees. Also, is there any room at the Recycling Facility to accommodate some kind of compost option, either as a transfer station or for “in-house” compost, perhaps even just the yard waste? Recycle center has to have a certain amount of open space, per John. Decision to have group go on tour of Recycle center for more information about possibilities.
  - b. Additional discussion on pros and cons of public car charger. Is it an issue of needing multiple adaptors?
  - c. General trash concerns: John states most common item they find in the creek is plastic bags. Molly states that trash audit found overwhelming amount of basic recycling not being done by residents. Opportunities for projects there.
6. Update on Solar Bids – We are awaiting quotes from two solar companies who looked at the Recycling Center as a possible location for solar panels. Another option is the pool house – Nicci

and Deb will reach out to the companies for updated information. Quotes will then be shared with the Village to determine feasibility.

7. Other Business: Tom wonders about chemical use in the Village. John will find out more information on how the pond is currently being treated.
  - a. Would like to look at including sustainability in Master plan. Further discussion at next meeting.
8. Next meeting: scheduled for June 13th at 6:30pm in the Park View Room
9. Adjournment: 7:51pm

Respectfully submitted,

Debra Baesemann, Co-Chairperson