

Town of Southampton

Sustainability Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday February 2nd, 2016 Southampton Town Hall

Members present: J. Burmeister (JB), J. Botos (JB2), B. Chaleff (BC), L. Arthur (LA), A. Reisman (AR), N. Palumbo (NP), J. Barrows (JB3), J. Bouvier (JB4)

Non members present: J. Bouvier (JB4), F. Zappone (FZ), J. Cunningham (JC), J. Becerra (JB5), D. Mabe (DM), J. Banks (JB6), S. Jones (SJ), J. Lofstad (JL), S. Smith (SS)

Meeting was called to order at 4:00 PM. Meeting minutes from January 19th, 2016 were approved.

Progression and Discussion of 400+ Components

General Discussion Overview, as expanded below: Jamie Banks and Daniel Mabe made a presentation regarding battery powered landscaping equipment. Their main goal is to promote clean, green, serene and healthy in village and neighborhood settings, trying to deter agitating noise and pollution from fuel powered machines. The emissions from these machines are obscene; including such chemicals as VOCs, NO, CO, PM2.5 and CO2, as well as ground based particular matter such as feces, metals, fungi, etc. Also, the noise is extremely loud and damaging, reaching over large distances and with high decibel levels. This is a health and environmental issue, which has become more prominent over the last 20 years with the exponential growth of the landscape maintenance industry. As an organization, they have put together 4 councils: health, legal, professional and community. There are also various programs and advisory services. Franz Zappone spoke about the meeting with John Garvey and Julie Bouvier. It was a very informative session, and they were very receptive of what the Committee members gave them. They understand the energy needs of the East End and how REV can help meet sustainability requirements. Power companies are not as inclined to support, but they saw the support from communities for REV.

1. EDUCATION

- a. Town Employees
- b. Homeowners and Other Residents
- c. Business Owners
- d. Primary School education
- e. Educational signage
- f. Food Production & Consumption
- g. Outreach – *JB6 and DM: Also as part of their outreach to reduce the number of fuel powered landscaping equipment, they are promoting the creation of Green Zones: parks that are maintained quietly with subsidized machinery which is battery powered. The idea is to reduce the amount of noise created by fuel powered machinery, especially leaf blowers. Noise can travel over 800 feet, and reach up to 104 decibels (85 decibels is where hearing loss begins to occur). Noise also interferes with wildlife, injuring the ecosystems. Pollution is a main concern as well. Particulates picked up from the ground such as fecal matter, fungi, etc., chemicals from the exhaust, and ground/water pollution due to oil. There are a number of solutions but they focus on electric equipment. Battery technology is at a point where it is very practical.*

There are no toxic emissions, no fuel cost, less maintenance, and no fuel spillage. Work production rates equal to gas in most cases, and the initial higher capital investment to buy the equipment can even out through fuel saving costs. Currently they are setting up Green Zones to demonstrate how the equipment works, educating the community, the industry and the workers.

JC: Christine Scalera seems very interested and would like to maybe try having a Green Zone at Red Creek Park. The ground crew is there all summer long, and this would be a good chance to introduce the community, local businesses, and the industry. We would follow up with an information fair for landscapers and residents so they can get some hands on interaction.

2. WATER

- a. Regional Clean Water Coalition
- b. Surface Water Quality
- c. Education
- d. Regulated Water Conservation
- e. Water Treatment and Reuse
- f. Landscape Management
- g. Drinking Water Quality

- h. Groundwater Protection
- i. Stormwater Management
- j. Wetlands Protection
- k. Floodplains
- l. Planning and Emergency Mgmt

3. ECONOMICS

- a. Sustainability Index
- b. Green Business Development
- c. Resource Sharing
- d. Affordable Housing
- e. Sustainable Economy

4. LAND USE

- a. Climate Action Plan
- b. Land Use Plan
- c. Open Space Preservation
- d. New Open space
- e. Biomass Preservation
- f. Environmental Restoration
- g. Neighborhood Pattern and Design
- h. Heat Island Effect

5. TRANSPORTATION & AIR QUALITY

- a. Idling Reduction
- b. Bicycle Use
- c. Complete Streets
- d. Demand – Reduce VMT
- e. Public Transportation
- f. Parking
- g. Reduced Emissions Alt Fuel
- h. Neighborhood Pattern and Design
- i. Resilient Infrastructure

6. ENERGY / CARBON

- a. Long Term Energy Planning – FZ on meeting with DPS officials: it was a well attended meeting, with representatives from East Hampton, Brookhaven, Southold, among others. John Garvey and Julie Bouvier made a very informative session, and were also very receptive to the information given by our Committee's reps. They understand the East End's energy needs and how REV could help achieve the sustainability requirements we have. A letter was sent to the commissioner of the Department of Public Service. DPS is charged with a large part of the responsibility of implementing the governor's energy vision. Power companies are not inclined to support, but they saw the support from the communities. LA: it was very important that FZ emphasized how things are done here by mentioning the extensive public hearings that occur. The key message was that we want to participate in what they discuss when it

comes to energy: if they will make decisions without public hearings, then this will cause problems for them.

JB3: it occurred to him that it would be beneficial for the building industry to get behind this so that they may start to educate themselves. Being able to know what's coming down the line is a huge component for builders.

- b. Energy and Carbon Audits
- c. Clean Energy Renewable
- d. Energy and Carbon Reduction
- e. Education

7. GREEN BUILDING

- a. Sustainable New Construction – NP on green roofs: he secured a grant for installation of green roofs on campus. Got back the first corollary report for savings, and undertook a feasibility study for microgrids: there is a projection of millions in savings. A
- b. Green Building Education
- c. Water Efficiency in Buildings
- d. Heat Island Effect - Roofs

8. WASTE

- a. Municipal Facility Recycling
- b. Comprehensive E Waste Recycling
- c. Plastic Recycling
- d. Organic Waste
- e. Waste Education – JB4 on nitrogen reduction: he attended a meeting regarding nitrogen reduction plan. The idea is that the county and state come to grip with the fact that the East End is in crisis. Also, in developing a water plan, need to identify problems and would be great to get some help from the committee. SM: had a community meeting with Indian House Services, to help go over some details and get input from the tribal members. They are scheduled to have another meeting on February 22nd with Indian House Services; BC would like to participate in that conversation. They are looking at options of where to put the waste treatment plant on the reservation.
- f. School Recycling/Trex
- g. Materials Exchange
- h. Paper Waste
- i. Building waste
- j. Hazardous Waste
- k. Product Stewardship
- l. Long Term Waste Planning – FRNCA pilot in process

9. QUALITY OF LIFE

- a. Promotion of Physical Activity
- b. Local Food
- c. Air Quality
- d. Facade Improvement
- e. Education
- f. Emergency Preparedness

10. STEWARDSHIP

- a. Trail Preservation
- b. Historic Places
- c. Fisheries
- d. Nutrients in Environment
- e. Education
- f. Vacant Land
- g. Forest and Vegetation

***** Meeting was adjourned at 5:30 PM. Please be advised that our next meeting will be Tuesday February 16nd, 2016 at 4:00PM in the lower level conference room of Southampton Town Hall.***