

## Town of Southampton

### Sustainability Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016 Southampton Town Hall

**Members present:** D. Von Lehsten (DVL), G. Berk (GB), J. Burmeister (JB), G. Raacke (GR), J. Botos (JB2), L. Arthur (LA), A. Reisman (AR), N. Palumbo (NP), J. Keller (JK)

**Non members present:** F. Zappone (FZ), J. Bouvier (JB3), C. Fetten (CF), J. Becerra (JB4), B. Tito (BT)

**Meeting was called to order at 4:00 PM. Meeting minutes from March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016 were approved.**

#### Progression and Discussion of 400+ Components

General Discussion Overview, as expanded below: Brad Tito is with NYSERDA and works with communities across New York to help them save on energy and improve the environment. There is a lot going on with sustainability all over the state. Currently he tracks ten items throughout New York, such as PACE financing, NY Prize and Climate Smart Communities. He finds that 20% of local government has at least one item. Some regions on Long Island are head of the game, greatly in part because of groups such as our Sustainability Committee. The purpose of him coming out today is to reach out to local leadership in order to understand the needs and interests. NYSERDA had not been communicating too much, but currently it is trying to reconnect with communities and local government. At this moment they are working on launching Energy Smart Communities where they identified ten high impact actions that can cut costs, reduce emissions and create jobs for communities. If you commit to 4 out of the 10 actions, the government earns the designation of Energy Smart Community and gets access to a grant, \$250,000 in the case of Southampton. CF hopes RFP for Solar will be released shortly. JB2 submitted the paperwork for Climate Smart Communities and will be announcing on Earth Day; hoping to get Bronze. FZ reached out to NYSERDA to reengage in the Green Homes Program. GR announced there will be a wind energy forum at 10AM in East Hampton. NP continued dialogue with Quiet Communities and spoke about the possibility of establishing a center at Suffolk County CC.

#### 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

#### 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 – *JB on water quality meeting: Bridget Fleming attended representing the County. The discussed sand mines in Bridgehampton. It used to be a very profitable business selling high*

*quality sand to contractors. These pits ran out and were abandoned. People began dumping vegetative waste and after some testing, certain metals were found in the samples. Also, they found medication, pesticides, etc.*

- 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 Town Lighting Districts: *the maintenance division of the Parks Department is responsible for maintaining street lighting within the Town. He will meet with the Director of Parks. They had looked into changing the light bulbs 4 years ago but there were issues with dark skies regulations. They will need to take a look to see if new technology has taken care of these issues. This is an opportunity to look at the code and see whether a change would be viable.*
- b. Energy and Carbon Audits
- c. Clean Energy Renewable – CF on RFP for Solarize: *it will be released shortly, working along with NP and LA. Community Solar was looked into and there were some comments. It will include low income and commercial solar installations. Also, the project will require the use of interns from Suffolk County CC (possibly could include high school students also).*

*JB2 on Climate Smart Communities in EH: submitted the paperwork for the program and will make the announcement on Earth Day; they are hoping for bronze. Also, the Green Homes Program will be outsourced.*

- d. Energy and Carbon Reduction – GR on Wind Energy in East Hampton: *a wind energy forum was organized for the coming Saturday at 10AM in East Hampton. It is geared toward LIPA making the right decision with the South Fork RFP. Also, it will raise awareness to put pressure on LIPA and the governor’s office. The letter writing campaign will continue and they will later be hand delivered to the LIPA Board of Trustees; it will be maintained through May when the decision is being made.*

- e. Education

**7. GREEN BUILDING**

- a. Sustainable New Construction – FZ on reengaging in the Green Homes Program: *he reached out to Neil over at NYSEERDA to reenter the program and Neil agreed asking the Town to reflect it on the budget. He also mentioned the possibility of adding other elements such as smart thermostats. Before the literature can be prepared, everything needs to be set. They wanted to up the ante in promoting the program by taking some money from other areas and putting into promotion. Also, they have instituted Energy Navigators who will do all the follow up with the customer who want an audit and will help them throughout the process.*

*LA on smart thermostats: has been working with terms and conditions of smart thermostats so we can do a program. Would like to wait until next meeting, but it is moving forward. The idea that a smart thermostat can be installed for free drives interest in home energy assessments.*

- 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
- 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 April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at 4:00PM in the lower level conference room of Southampton Town Hall.***