

Town of Mansfield  
Sustainability Committee  
Minutes of the Meeting – November 17, 2010

Present: Stoddard (chair), Miller (UConn Office of Environmental Policy), Sherman (EO Smith), Williams (Energy Education Committee), Hart, Loxsom, Hultgren (staff), Walton (staff)

The meeting was called to order by chair Stoddard at 5:08 PM.

The minutes of the October 27<sup>th</sup> meeting were approved on a motion by Miller/Stoddard.

Miller reported that the tour of UConn's composting facility was very successful with three bus loads of students, faculty, staff and residents touring the facility. He went on to explain the composting operation as well the operation of Spring Manor farm where students are learning to grow and sell organic produce.

The committee's priorities for the coming year were discussed and organized into 5 broad categories for further discussion at the next meeting. These were (1) staffing, (2) gathering data/informed planning, (3) raising public awareness and educating residents, (4) engaging and participating in Town projects and issues and (5) economic sustainability. Items 1 through 4 were more particularly discussed as follows:

Staffing –

- Resource person from neighbor to neighbor grant
- Grant funding for a sustainability coordinator
- Reorganizing existing staff
- Collaboration/shared staffing with UConn
- Models of how to share resources – job descriptions/grant application

Data & Informed Planning

- Use data to set goals and objectives
- Using data gathered for climate action plans
- Flexibility to assist with Town decisions and opportunities
- Various data formats ICLEI, STAR energy data, STCC, etc.
- Comparisons with other communities
- Using goals/objectives to inform the Town's Capital Improvement Program

Public Awareness and Education –

- Reaching a broader audience
- Sustainability section on the Town's website
- Information to residents on all aspects of sustainability (info and links)
- Social media
- Specific PR programs and efforts

Engaging in Town Projects and Issues

- Be ready to mobilize when opportunities arise in the course of Town business (example – school siting deliberations)
- Recycling
- Water supply
- Alternative Transportation
- Strategic Planning
- Storrs Center

Schools  
PZC regulation changes  
Land care and Town fields

Economic Sustainability

This topic will be discussed at the next meeting – exactly what is it, and how does it differ from environmental sustainability?

Walton gave a brief introduction to the hydropower proposal of the Kirby Mill owners in Mansfield Center, which will be discussed at the next meeting.

The next meeting was set for December 15<sup>th</sup> at which time the committee's priorities will be further discussed, the subject of economic sustainability will be understood and the hydropower proposal will be discussed.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:27 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Lon Hultgren  
Director of Public Works