



Manchester-By-The-Sea Meeting Minutes Posting

Board/Committee: Sustainability Committee

Day & Date: Wednesday, February 12, 2025

Time: 05:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Location: Zoom

MINUTES

Members present: Annie McBride, Sandy Rogers, Nadia Wetzler, Louisa Mackintosh, John Croft, Jennifer Moulton. Prospective new member, Max Messervy was in attendance.

1. Meeting started at 5:30PM. Minutes from the 1/8/25 meeting were approved.
2. We discussed the vacant position. Max Messervy in progress for filling vacancy but not yet confirmed.
3. Sandy gave a recap of the meeting with Cheryl from the Parks and Rec team. We will partner with them on the annual Town Cleanup, which will be hosted in May. They can support with a sign up and waiver and supplies, once we determine what materials are needed. We plan to get student and other groups involved in the cleanup. Next step is creating a shared planning doc and working with Parks and Rec.
4. We will create an event greening guide that Parks and Rec can share with vendors as a suggestion for how to be more environmentally-friendly. John suggested offering this guide to the Select Board to reference for town events. Nadia suggested requiring vendors to submit a waste reduction plan, as is required in Berkeley, CA. Annie suggested forming a team of volunteers that can stand near waste areas at events to help guide attendees on which bin to use. This has been used in the past for the Red, White, and Blue breakfast at Tucks Point. Max suggested paid events add a small amount to the fee to cover more responsible plating. It was also suggested that the town reduce rental fees for vendors who are compliant with the greening guidelines. The group will draft up this guide and submit it to Parks and Rec after reviewing it in the next meeting.
5. We discussed beach trash and understand that it's not a dire issue. However, there is always room for improvement, and we will consider ways that we can increase usage of trash cans on the property and the "pack in, pack out" method via educational signage. The hope is that the green guide can be used by the next food vendor (the current vendor has one more season to go).

6. Sandy, Louisa, and Jenn gave a recap on the Black Earth Compost tour. We talked about having one or two Manchester-specific tours, likely to be held in August. The goal is to encourage residents and local businesses to participate. Sandy requested composting stats from them on volume, participation rate, etc. Annie will work with them on a story for The Cricket.
7. Max and Sandy will work together to create a dashboard of town waste and utility stats from which we can use to quantify problem areas and our impact. They will reach out to DPW and Black Earth compost, along with other resources, to gather data.
8. John will explore the sustainability designation and grant that could be available to the town in the future.
9. Ongoing projects to keep up with: creating a comprehensive list of local outlets for recycling and resale. Supporting regulation of gas leaf blowers. Reducing light pollution in town. Business outreach plan for helping local businesses reduce their footprint.
10. Max suggested hosting a learning session related to climate change, flooding, and insurance.
11. Meeting adjourned at 7PM.