

APPROVED MINUTES  
SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE MEETING  
AUGUST 25, 2022-5PM  
Dunaway Center using Zoom facilities

**PREFACE:**

The scheduled Committee meeting of July 28 was not held and the agenda for that meeting was used for the August 25<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**ELECTIONS**

Elections were held to select officers for the SUSTAINABILITY Committee for this year.

The candidates for the three Committee Officers were nominated and the results were:

Chair-Marjorie Katz

Vice Chair- David Nosnik

Secretary - Paul Breen

**1.0 Welcome & Call to Order -5:00PM**

**1.1 ROLL CALL-** Members present- Marjorie Katz, David Nosnik, Priscilla Botsford and Paul Breen

Pam Sawyer was absent

A quorum was noted.

## **2.0 MINUTES**

The minutes of the Committee meeting of June 23, 2022 were approved.

## **3.0 CHAIR REPORT**

Water Quality Testing during this reporting period is being accomplished by personnel from the University of New Hampshire.

Dry environmental conditions have significantly limited the amount of rain falling in the area of interest, resulting in minimal runoff from tributaries.

During this period, tests conducted as part of the Maine Healthy Beaches Program have acceptable water quality conditions.

This correlates as a review of prior data obtained under normal rainfall conditions showed that when significant rainfall is recorded at low tide, the result is a breach of acceptable water quality in the Ogunquit River.

No formal testing has been conducted as part of the Town's water quality program during the past reporting period.

An opportunity to determine the effects of heavy rain on water quality at low tide was missed recently by the personnel designated for conducting the necessary measurements.

The details of the Budget for Water Quality funding remain unclear.

Priscilla noted that the Ogunquit Sewer Dept is conducting water quality testing in Wells. Coordination should be accomplished to review their findings.

Informal testing on tributaries show that the results have been driven by Avian sources.

The results noted during the past period argues for a Plan which defines development testing under those instances where heavy rainfall occurs.

The Plan should be coordinated with the University of New Hampshire personnel responsible for testing water quality.

### **3.2 Replacement of Fossil Fuel Equipment**

One of the missions of the Sustainability Committee is to support the replacement of Town equipment with equipment based on renewable technology.

The dual boiler equipment recently procured by the Town could be subjected to a competitive analysis from a heat pump system to determine costs and comparable functionality.

In order to increase the awareness of options available to residents when a major capital equipment requires replacement, the Committee suggests that a note be added to each owner's tax bill identifying information on renewable sources, capabilities and costs of equipment for the required capability.

David offered to review the Committee's mission statement to clarify the emphasis on renewables.

## **4. Leaf Blowers**

### **4.1 Development of Noise Control Regulations for Leaf Blowers**

This topic was addressed earlier this year by Marjorie and Paul and is readdressed to define a proposal for action by the Select Board and voters in the forthcoming June 2023 election.

The issue raised by leaf blowers is the reduced quality of life experienced by Ogunquit residents who are exposed to the excessive noise levels of gasoline leaf blowers.

Ogunquit residents have asked the Sustainability Committee to develop regulations which would result in the reduction of acoustical noise levels from gasoline powered leaf blowers used by landscapers to clean their property.

Attachment 2 contains material on acoustical noise standard and a proposed noise ordinance for leaf blowers in Ogunquit.