

APPROVED MINUTES
SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE MEETING
SEPTEMBER 22, 2022-5PM
Dunaway Center using Zoom facilities

1.0 Welcome & Call to Order -5:00PM

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

A quorum was noted.

2.0 MINUTES

The minutes of the Committee meeting of August 25, 2022, were approved.

3.0 WATER QUALITY REPORT

The Chair reported that Water Quality Testing is proceeding with informal tests conducted at Riverside showing compliance with acceptable limits.

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

Measurements conducted during the recent rains can offer insight into conditions supporting high bacteria levels as dry environmental conditions over the summer have significantly limited the amount of rain falling in the area of interest, resulting in minimal runoff from tributaries.

The Chair reported that a formal water quality report will be completed by the Univ of NH vendor in November and submitted to the Town Manager for review.

Paul stated that the submitted water quality report should contain a description of the water quality tests conducted during the reporting period, the listing of the rainy days during that period, the listing of rainy days that were selected for testing, the results obtained and the analysis and conclusions of those tests.

The results noted during the past period argues for a Plan which prioritizes the conduct of water quality testing on those days where rainfall is anticipated.

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

4. Acoustic Noise Levels Produced by Leaf Blowers.

Residents have requested that the Committee review the acoustic noise levels produced by gas leaf blowers in Ogunquit and develop an ordinance which would limit the acoustic noise levels of leaf blowers employed by landscaping companies in Ogunquit.

Paul developed the rationale for an acoustical noise ordinance and drafted an acoustical ordinance for Ogunquit and submitted it to the Committee for review.

The draft ordinance defines the minimum acoustical noise levels for all leaf blowers operating within the town of Ogunquit, the tasks to be controlled by the ordinance and the days and times of operation.

The Committee will review the proposed ordinance at the next Committee meeting, discuss the content and create a new draft focused on developing an acoustical noise ordinance to be submitted to the Town Manager and the Select Board for discussion and action.

5.0 The Southern Maine Planning Development Commission Resilience Studies.

The resilience studies developed by the Southern Maine Planning and Development Commission were briefly discussed.

In the past year, this group has produced reports detailing the physical and economic impact of three levels of increased Sea Rise and Storm Surge on the land areas in each of six towns on coastal southern Maine.

Studies need to be conducted to examine the potential retreat of salt marshes and the resident flora and fauna in response to increases in the water table from sea rise.

Review of the resilience studies will be discussed in future Committee sessions.

6.0 Sustainability Day

The Committee discussed the development of a Sustainability Day during which improvements to resident's quality of life can be projected in the context increased costs for fossil fuels and the introduction of new technologies to fuel homes and businesses.

7.0 Adjournment

No public comments were noted during this meeting.

This meeting was adjourned at 6:02PM.

The next meeting of the Sustainability Committee will be held on October 27 at 5PM.