



Town of Bolton

222 BOLTON CENTER ROAD • BOLTON, CT 06043
TELEPHONE (860) 649-8066 FAX (860) 643-0021

SUSTAINABLE CT COMMITTEE WEDNESDAY, JULY 22, 2020 7:00 P.M. - VIRTUAL SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

The July 22, 2020 Sustainable CT Committee meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM.

ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT: First Selectman Sandra Pierog; Planning & Zoning Commission Representative Arlene Fiano; Conservation Commission Representative Jean Laughman; At-Large Members Jennifer Cyr and Stanley Staron; and Director of Community Development Patrice Carson.

OTHERS PRESENT: Sustainability Intern Alexa Loda.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

AGENDA ITEM 3 – Approval of the May 27, 2020 and June 24, 2020 meeting minutes.

DISCUSSION: None.

MOTION by Staron, seconded by Cyr, to approve the minutes from the May 27, 2020 meeting.

VOTING IN FAVOR: Pierog, Fiano, Laughman, Cyr, and Staron.

ABSTENSIONS: Jean Laughman.

MOTION by Staron, seconded by Cyr, to approve the minutes from the June 24, 2020 meeting.

VOTING IN FAVOR: Pierog, Fiano, Laughman, Cyr, and Staron.

ABSTENTIONS: Jean Laughman.

AGENDA ITEM 4a – Discussion on Sustainable CT Certification Action 9.1, Equity Toolkit.

DISCUSSION: Carson has been asking for an equity coach, and there have been a few delays to date. An equity coach was not able to make this meeting. The Fellow assigned to Bolton stated that she feels an equity action has already been taken in town by way of permitting the Black Lives Matter gathering to occur on the Town Green earlier in the summer. Carson also noted that there was follow-up after the Town Green gathering with Pierog holding a Facebook Live event on the subject of diversity and inclusion. The Fellow stated that all of this may very well constitute an Equity Action, and several individuals, including Pierog, Gracie Benson, and Carson, have been working to develop a narrative describing this string of activity, a rationale for it, and conversations that were held around it. Carson stated that she and Pierog had

discussed having a second Facebook Live event in the next month. Pierog has also been doing research into the idea of creating a diversity council of some kind.

Carson concluded by saying that she will be taking the information she gathered from Benson and Pierog to include with the Sustainable CT certification application that is due towards the end of August. Carson is also considering submitting other actions for consideration by the Sustainable CT certification review panel. Build & Bloom in Bolton is one of those possible actions, despite the fact that it was not able to be held in 2020 as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Fiano asked how a Facebook Live event would be advertised, to which Pierog stated that it would be advertised in a consistent manner with the last Facebook Live event. Carson asked Fiano what social media sites she uses personally, to which she replied that she does use a few social media sites, but that she does not use them regularly. The idea of sharing information about the event via email was brought up. Cyr stated that she attended the last Facebook Live event and that it was very informative. Cyr also said that she was excited by the idea of a diversity council. Pierog stated that she is struggling to determine what the composition of such a council should be given that Bolton does not have the most diverse population. Discussion continued on possibilities. Carson asked Cyr to share a letter with her about her experiences with the equity actions to be shared with the Sustainable CT application.

AGENDA ITEM 4b – Discussion on status of all other Sustainable CT Certification actions.

DISCUSSION: Carson started by explaining that Alexa Loda, the town's Sustainability Intern over this summer, has concluded her work on actions pertaining to reducing food waste. Loda will be staying on with the Town through August 1st to complete another action in this area, which will include a video presentation on food composting. Her action included a survey asking how many residents would be interested in beginning to compost, and Carson would like to go ahead and buy composters to sell to interested residents. Pierog stated that she feels a little more research should be done on the cost, but that generally it seemed like a good idea. Carson concluded with giving brief updates on the status of other application components.

AGENDA ITEM 4a – Other.

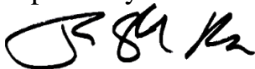
DISCUSSION: None.

AGENDA ITEM 6 – Set the next meeting date.

DISCUSSION: Rather than set a date for a next meeting, the decision for a future meeting will be decided by the committee members via email after Carson has heard more from Sustainable CT's Equity Coach.

The meeting adjourned at 7:38 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Joshua Steele Kelly, Administrator

See minutes of subsequent meetings for approval of these minutes and any corrections hereto.