

**Sustainability Advisory Committee Meeting
September 14, 2015**

Attending: Jon, Briggs, Leigh Hafrey, Carol Hills, Deb Harrison, Chuck Kabat, Rich McGuinness, Carol Hills, Virginia LeClair

J. Briggs opened the meeting of September 14, 2015

Approval of Minutes

Jon Briggs made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of March 12, 2015. D. Harrison second. All in favor.

Deb Harrison made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of May 11, 2015. C. Kabat second. All in favor.

DEP Recycling Dividends and CHARM Program

V. LeClair reviewed the opportunities for the Town to be awarded grant funds through the DEP Recycling Dividends and CHARM programs, which rewards communities for recycling difficult items. The majority of the suggestions in this program would require the town to renovate the existing transfer station so that bins for recycling mattresses, TVs, clothes etc could all be found on site for a one-stop recycling experience. There is a plan to renovate the transfer station, but it is still a couple years out.

Dedham Heritage Trail Discussion

V. LeClair updated the Committee on the formation of the Friends of the Dedham Heritage Rail Trail group. The group meets monthly and has taken trips to neighboring communities to see like trails, as well as interviewed trail users.

C. Hills suggested that the group visit the Saugus trail, which she thought was a comparable path. D. Harrison asked where the selectman stood on this project. V. LeClair said that some of the selectmen are in support of this project, but that she was not sure where all of the selectman stood. Once there is more support built up from the friends of group, she plans to go before the Selectmen again.

V. LeClair invited the committee members to attend a Friends group meeting. They typically meet Monday or Tuesday mornings. C. Kabat suggested involving the historical society to trace the history of the abandoned rail line and significant points of interest along the route.

The group then discussed the name of the trail.

Climate Change Lecture Series

The Committee discussed holding an educational meeting on climate change. D. Harrison generously offered the Noble and Greenough campus as a site for the meeting. She thought that she could get the Green Committee and parents groups involved. She suggested we advertise this to the Dedham HS Green Team. As well as to invite the Selectmen, Representatives, schools and press.

C. Kabat said the mission of the meeting is to educate the general public on climate change, which he thought returned the committee to its original mission of education. R. McGuinness suggested that we bring climate change home, by highlighting the impact it would have on the Charles River, heat island, storm impacts, drought and the duration of rain events. L. Hafrey suggested the session last 90 minutes, with time at the end for questions.

D. Harrison suggested the Charles River Watershed Association and Mass Audubon as potential speakers. J. Briggs suggested C. Derber, local author and Boston College professor. V. LeClair suggested Julie Conroy of MAPC to discuss the Climate Toolkit that they created for municipalities.

L. Hafrey offered to moderate the event, which would be held on Wednesday, November 18th from 7:00am-8:30pm at Nobles. The Committee debated the name, before settling on Climate Change: the case of Dedham.

C. Hills suggested having a handout prepared with ways we can reduce the impact of climate change.

Member Appointment to Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC)

J. Briggs discussed the original intent of the committee. R. McGuinness volunteered to be the Sustainability Committee liaison to the TAC.

Old/New Business

None to report

Adjourn

R. McGuinness made a motion to adjourn. D. Harrison second. All in favor.