**DEDHAM SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Meeting Minutes for December 13, 2017

Attendees: Emily Walton, John Gorham, Deb Harrison, Matt Simonson and Chuck Kabat (took minutes)

At 7:00 p.m. Emily opened the meeting; John seconded.

Meeting began with a discussion led by Deb on the Olin College student project and Compact of Mayors. It was said that Professor Alison Wood will oversee students and their pull of our data to potentially integrate it into the project. Deb and Leigh Hafrey were to attend a meeting about this project on Dec. 19.

A discussion took place on how the office of Environmental Coordinator may lose access to decision-making meetings at town hall. John wondered if Ginny heard from Town Manager James Kern about our opposition to the change?

The committee then discussed a possible plastic bag ban. Deb asked if our town can speak with other towns on best practices and learnings and we will ask Ginny to do so. Examples given: Framingham, Natick and Newton. Committee agreed to continue this discussion in next meeting(s).

Committee held a wide-ranging discussion on its 2018 goals and their status. Actions tabled, but it was mentioned that goals should be more influential, advisory and actionable.

We next talked about drafting an educational press article around post-holiday recycling tips for the Dedham Times. Chuck agreed to write it.

Finally, Deb suggested our committee craft letters for the Planning Board, Conservation Commission and other relevant committees that offer our Committee’s strong point of view on sustainability issues that impact their decision making. All agreed. Topic to be continued.

Emily motioned for adjournment; Deb seconded.