



Sustainable Durham

Agenda: September 1, 2026 7:00 PM 3rd Floor Conference Room

Meeting called to order at 7:02 PM.

1. Attendance
 - a. Present: Tonya Buddie, Liz Conroy, Trish Dynia, Katie Hughes, Carly Koebel, Susan Michael, Ron Capozzi (alternate)
 - b. Absent: Krista Bachman
 - c. Laura Francis has resigned.
2. Approve Minutes
 - a. Motion made by Trish Dynia to approve July minutes. Approved with Carly Koebel and Katie Hughes abstaining.
 - b. Motion made by Susan Michael to approve August minutes. Approved with Liz Conroy and Trish Dynia abstaining.
3. Update on progress on Action Items
 - a. Review [Action 1.1](#) Durham Optimize for Equity - Sent to Sustainable CT for review. We received favorable feedback and a few suggestions which have been incorporated and sent back to Sustainable CT for final review. The Communications Strategy will be checked again with the Selectmen.
 - b. Action 1.2 the Equity Trainings could be addressed next year in the first half of the year when the workshops are offered. Katie completed an Equity Training class. One town employee and an elected official will need to also complete training to meet the goal of this action item.
 - c. Action 4 Sue Michael interviewed Carolyn Hvarda at the Community Center about the 250 Art Show and Open Creativity nights. If they align with an action they could be written up.
 - i. Susan wrote up actions for #4 related to the Poet Laureate in early July and posted them in the Durham platform.
 - d. Category 5.6.1 Streamline Solar Permitting - items still in process

- i. Matt Meeker is going to complete solar pv inspector training authorized through Solarize CT
 - ii. Tonya is working with Robin, the town planner, to develop language to add to the regulations to simplify solar permitting. Then put it on the town website once adopted..
 - iii. 3 goals are completed in this action and have 3 to go.
 - iv. Once language is determined to add sustainability it has to be pitched to Planning and Zoning for approval and implementation.
 - e. Action 7: Energy Star Portfolio - Data needs to be entered into the portfolio. Ron Capozzi will take on this task.
 - f. Review [Actions 8.1](#)
 - i. Carly and Susan are going to update the worksheet to 20 events.
 - g. Review [Action 8.2.1a](#),b and the [8.2.1a Durham Municipal Communication Inventory](#)
 - i. DMYFS is working on a community calendar. They have secured participation from the school district, Durham and Middlefield and the libraries in Durham and Middlefield. They are using a google calendar format.
4. Update - Home composters discussion -
- a. We were not able to attend the Thursday night concerts to market the composters. The committee will be looking for other opportunities.
5. Roundtable
- a. Sue and Carly will work on removing the Burning Bush and other invasives from Allyn Brook Park.
 - b. Sue provided an update on the Durham Fair Composting project. There have been a number of changes in carriers and haulers but the project still works well.
 - c. Katie Hughes met with the superintendent of schools and the head of food service to discuss reductions in the use of non reusable items in the school cafeterias.
6. Public Comment - no public in attendance.

Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM

Next meeting dates: October 6, November 3, December 1, 2026