

**Sustainable Litchfield Committee Minutes**  
**October 6, 2020**  
**Virtual “Zoom” Meeting**

Call To Order: John Post called the meeting to order at 2:34 pm with James Keithan, John Morosani, Jeff Zullo, Raz Alexe, Dean Birdsall and Margret Hunt joined later. 1st Selectwoman Denise Raap was present as a guest.

Approval of Minutes: John Morosani motioned that the 9/1/20 meeting minutes to be approved, Jeff Zullo seconded. The motion carried.

Old Business

- Resident’s Concern re: private solar farm - Jeff will update the board regarding the concern and potential town response and official recommendations regarding the recycling of decommissioned solar arrays. Jeff is not writing an official request to Silicon Ranch yet, but he will ask what their end-of-life plan is when he meets with them next.
- Update on Russell St. tank - Peter Aziz (the owner of the tank) plans to disassemble the tank.
- Jeff Z. and John P. will meet with Sustainable CT to discuss Crowdsourcing funding for landscaping planting at the solar sites. Some questions remain regarding number of grants available per town per year. Raz expressed concern for the landscape maintenance costs and the possibility that grants could help cover those projected expenses. Raz will reach out in hopes to coordinate with the Litchfield Garden Club.

Action Tracker Update

- John P. agreed to make a new tab too reflect the new numbers from the reorganized Sustainable CT action items.
- New Partners - Marie Kennedy, the current President of Litchfield Hills Audubon Society and Kristi Dranginis, member, author, and local bird mentor have agreed to partner with us. They are considering appropriate actions.

New Business

- Action Item Reorganization from Sustainable CT
  - John P, Diane F., and Dean B. attended a zoom meet with Sustainable CT and other participating towns to review and provide feedback regarding the impending Action Item reorganization.
  - The changes are designed to improve the program and can be reviewed on the Sustainable CT web site. They include renumbering and reallocation action items and the addition of a few new opportunities.
  - Action item addressing Homelessness was added and will be optional to start.
  - New action items 3.12 Pollinator Pathways and 3.13 Dark Skies Initiative
  - Look back period has been standardized for all actions to 3 years.
  - Relaxation of the “municipal employee” references to allow more collaborative efforts with local organizations.
  - John P. will update Action Tracker with a new tab. Some committee team assignments may need adjusting.
- SMART (Save Money And Reduce Trash) Team formerly known as the Recycling Team. They are making progress and James plans to identify the most suitable Action Items for this team and reflect them in our “Action Tracker”:. This is a critical area of focus with tipping fees anticipated to increase cost to town by over \$100,000.

- Logo design
  - Consensus that Sustainable Litchfield should have a well-crafted logo.
  - Discussion regarding potential logo contest to continue in future meetings.
- Bronze application date
  - The Committee debated an April vs. August 2020 submission, and agreed to assess viability to complete our existing actions by April; there was a tentative agreement to hold to the April date. We' agree to hold a Special Meeting in 2 weeks to assess and make a final decision re: a submission date.
  - **Teams of committee members are assigned to assess their ability to complete action items prior to the 4/12/20 date and to be prepared to report back to the Committee on Oct 20<sup>th</sup> at our agreed upon 3:30 meeting.**
  - Pending a submission decision, we will address our monthly meeting frequency (1 or 2 meetings/mo.).
- Climate Vulnerability Workshop with The Nature Conservancy for actions 4.4 and 10.1 are available. John P. will investigate dates and Denise R. will form a team to participate.
- ARC GIS opportunities opening up. Raz A. suggested that new layers can be added to maps and this may be helpful for specific actions.

#### Announcements

- Next meeting is Tuesday, Oct. 20 at 3:30pm

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 3:54pm. Margaret motioned to adjourn and John M. seconded.

Dean Birdsall, filling in for Secretary Carrie Szwed

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Post', with a stylized flourish at the end.

John Post, Chair