Sustainable Litchfield Committee

Regular Meeting

3:30 pm Tuesday, November 10, 2026

Bantam Annex

M I N U T E S

- Call to Order: 3:35pm
    - In attendance: Barbara Carr, Carrie Szwed, Daniela Larsson, Cathleen Wyse, Dean Birdsall, Margaret Hunt
- Approve any outstanding minutes
    - Minutes from 10/13/26 – C. Wyse motioned to approve. B. Carr seconded. All in favor.
- New Actions Updates – committee initiatives
    - Rodenticide policy update: D. Raap and B. Seamans worked on a policy that will ban SGARs on Town property, based off the policy adopted by Winsted. The policy was unanimously approved at the BOS meeting on Nov. 3. Now it goes to a public vote on Nov. 12. Several SusLitch members will be at the meeting to vote in favor of the policy. One of them (C. Szwed unless she is unable to attend) will read a statement of support. If the policy is adopted, C. Szwed will see if D. Raap will allow SusLitch to post an announcement on the Town's social media accounts, congratulating the Town for the setting the example of stewardship and encouraging private citizens to follow suit.
    - Communication Survey Update: Still need to set up a meeting with D. Raap to talk about the communications survey results (which indicate that the Town's email newsletter appears to be the most effective form of communication used by the Town). C. Szwed will email D. Raap about a possible December meeting. We should also ask if SusLitch can have a small section in the town newsletter for updates/announcements. The author of these updates would rotate throughout SusLitch committee members so that no one person is responsible for the load.
    - We are hoping that this Communications survey and follow-up will count as an equity toolkit with SusCT. M. Hunt has turned in materials in the past for equity

toolkits, so she is going to go over the requirements again to refresh her memory and report to the Committee.
    - D. Birdsall reported that the Bantam Watershed Coalition is making a lot of great progress.
    - The Litchfield "Pay as You Throw" program, organized by CT DEEP and promoted by the Waste Reduction Committee, is up and running. Over 100 people have already registered. This program will certainly fall under one of SusCT's Actions. C. Wyse and M. Hunt will work together on figuring out where it fits and submitting the materials to SusCT in 2027.
    - Public Works mapped out areas along roadways in Litchfield with patches of Japanese knotweed. They were planning to treat all of those areas. D. Birdsall will check in with B. Seamans on the progress of this. This work should also qualify for SusCT points.
    - For the next SusLitch meeting, everyone on the Committee should make a list of the sustainable projects they have worked on in 2025/2026 and what actions they correlate with. A lot of great work has been done the past couple of years, but we have not submitted any of it since our Silver certification. We want to make sure the Town is receiving credit (in the form of SusCT points) for all of the work. In 2027, we will focus on getting it all submitted and then see where that puts us in terms of points for either maintaining Silver certification or reaching Gold. D. Larsson emailed the Committee the most recent Action Tracker. The SusCT website lists a few changes that were made to the SusCT Actions in 2026, so we should be familiar with those changes.
- Adoption of 2027 Meeting Schedule
    - M. Hunt motioned to approve the 2027 SusLitch meeting schedule; meetings will continue to be held on the 2nd Tuesday of every month at 3:30pm at the Bantam Annex. B. Carr seconded. All in favor.
- New Business
- Adjournment and next meeting date
    - Meeting adjourned: 4:30pm
    - Next meeting is Tuesday, Dec. 8 at the Bantam Annex at 3:30pm.