

Sustainable Litchfield Committee



Special Meeting

3:30 pm Tuesday, July 11, 2023

Bantam Annex

Minutes

- Call to Order: 3:35pm
- Present: Dean Birdsall, Diane Field, Margaret Hunt, Dani Larsson, Keetu Winter, Cathleen Wyse, Jeff Zullo, Ryan Ziemnicki (SustainableCT Summer Fellow)
- Approve 6/6/23 minutes. M. Hunt noted two spelling corrections. D. Field requested a sentence move in Climate Leader first paragraph. Moved to accept as amended K. Winter. D. Field second. Approved. D. Larsson abstain.
- Gold certification requirement review: D. Birdsall and M. Hunt met last week to clean up the Gold Tab of the Action Tracker with respect to which committee member is working on which action category. D. Birdsall forwarded an update email from Sustainable CT (about what action items need more work before they can be accepted) to D. Larsson and J. Zullo who had not received the email. R. Ziemnicki added their emails to the Sustainable Litchfield account in the Sustainable CT website.

Review of actions from email that SustainableCT marked as needing more work:

D. Field added sub actions that need more work to the Gold Action Tracker.

6.3 has not been started so R. Zeimnicki will mark it unplanned.

7.1.1 From Bronze Certification needs update heating, solar data. (10 pts-7.1.2 already approved but not counted.) J. Zullo will update with more recent data.

9.1.1 Report materials and reduce waste. Worksheet needs to show at least two years of data. See SustainableCT reviewer comments on application. D. Birdsall will work on. (5 pts)

- Action Teams provide updates. D. Field updated Gold Action Tracker
Action #1: Need four equity toolkits for Gold certification. Already have two done, one for Bronze and one for Silver. Need two more.
Third equity toolkit for Gold: Using a #13 Innovative Action Broadband Project. J. Zullo reported that fiber optic feed wifi zone went live in Northfield; planned broadcast of Litchfield Guest wifi zone in Litchfield Borough and Bantam Borough should be completed by end of 2023. The 2021 Town Facilities Survey included a question about broadband. The final goal is that every citizen will have access to fiber optic cable in front of residence. D. Field will work on what is needed to submit this action as an Optimize for Equity.
Fourth equity toolkit for Action #1 will be from Innovative Action #13--after school programs. C. Szwed is working on this.

Action #2.23.2. K. Winter handed over to J. Zullo.

Action #3—Well Stewarded Land and Natural Resources: 3.4.3 and 3.10.1 D. Birdsall working on. K. Winter will help with 3.4.3

Action #4—Vibrant and Creative Cultural Ecosystems: M. Hunt in process.

Action #5—Dynamic and Resilient Planning: 5.1.c D. Larsson and K. Winter will work together. J. Zullo suggested getting in touch with Carol Bramley of P&Z to get information on the Haven development project. D. Birdsall suggested an approach to encourage participation and help from P&Z.

Action #6—Clean and Diverse Transportation Systems and Choices: 6.3. moved to unplanned. 6.4.5 Town awarded a grant from DEEP to install 5 charging stations by November 2024: Litchfield Municipal lot, Litchfield Town Hall, Land Trust/Greenway, Intermediate School, High School.

Action #7 Renewable and Efficient Energy Structures & Operations. 7.4.1b (a is completed) K. Winter and J. Zullo discuss what to include in submission evidence. R. Ziemnicki ask SustainableCT if using new solar project to power the WPCA can be brought in for any points for this action or is there another way to use this solar project for Gold.

Action #8 Inclusive Engagement, Communications & Education

8.6 *Required for Gold*--Cathleen checked to see if pay-as-you-go project qualifies for this action. It does not. Litchfield would need to work with another municipality on a common project. Cathleen will ask D. Raap, first Selectman, for any ideas that might fit this action. D. Birdsall suggested asking D. Raap about collaboration possibilities with the Bantam Lake Protective Association. M. Hunt will explore the possibility that Region 20 initiatives might satisfy 8.6.

8.1. Hold a Sustainable Event: D. Larsson will work on what needs to be submitted for Earth Day 2023.

Action #9 Strategic Materials Management--9.2.3 D. Birdsall will talk to J. Geci and revise submission based on reviewer feedback.

Action #10 Optimum Health & Wellness Opportunities--10.1.1.2c. D. Field will update and submit. 10.1.4. M. Hunt will talk to Lynn Capello

Action #11 Healthy, Efficient, & Diverse Housing. Submitted for Silver.

Action #12 Effective, Compassionate Homelessness Prevention
12.1.1. need one to fulfill Gold Requirement.

Action #13 Innovative Actions: Two actions. See Action #1 for details.

- Agree on timeline for strategic mosaic of Actions. Tabled for next meeting.
- Adjournment and next meeting date
 - M. Hunt move to adjourn. J. Zullo second. All in favor. Adjourned at 5:18pm.
 - Next meeting Tuesday, August 1, 3:30pm at Bantam Annex

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret Hunt, Secretary Pro Tem for Carrie Szwed