

Sustainable Litchfield Committee



Regular Meeting

3:30 pm Tuesday, October 3, 2023

Bantam Annex

MINUTES

- Call to Order: 3:36pm
 - In attendance: Cathleen Strobel, Diane Field, Dean Birdsall, Keetu Winter, Daniela Larsson, Jeff Zullo, Margaret Hunt, Carrie Szwed
 - Guests: Barbara Carr, 1st Selectman Denise Raap
- Approve 8/1/23 minutes
 - M. Hunt motioned to approve minutes. D. Larsson seconded. Motion approved.
- Gold certification requirement review
 - Action Teams provide updates
 - M. Hunt, C. Strobel, and D. Field clarified with Sustainable CT staff member, Jessica LeClair, that we can use re-use 330 of our previous points toward Gold certification (this includes our Climate Leader designation). However, we need to resubmit all those points and make sure that 1) they meet 2024 requirements, 2) their look-back period has not expired, and 3) we apply for rolling credit on all of them.
 - In addition to those 330 points, we also need 370 NEW points to reach Gold certification (which requires 700).
 - ALL of our points (and our Silver Certification) will expire in Dec. 2024, so it's important we submit for the Aug. 2024 deadline.
 - Jessica LeClair customized an updated Action Tracker for SusLitch. K. Winter and D. Larsson will work on synching up her Action Tracker with the one we created to make one comprehensive, updated document.

- M. Hunt, C. Strobel, and D. Field scrolled through all the Actions online and realized some were denoted with a Gold icon, which means they are required for Gold certification:
 - 2.1 Support Redevelopment of Brownfield Sites
 - 2.5 Promote Sustainable Workforce Development
 - 3.9 Manage Woodlands and Urban Forests
 - 3.11 Implement Green Grounds and Maintenance Program
 - 4.2 Support Arts and Creative Culture
 - 4.4 Provide and Arts and Culture Program for Kids
 - 5.1 Integrate Sustainability into Plan of Conservation and Development
 - 5.4 Assess Climate Vulnerability
 - 5.6 Streamline Solar Permitting for Small Solar Installations
 - 8.2 Provide Effective Community Communications
 - 8.3 Train Municipal Representatives
 - 8.4 Support Community Match Fund
 - 8.5 Engage in at SusCT Mentorship with Other Municipalities
 - 8.6 Collaborate with Other Municipalities on Sustainability Actions
 - 8.7 Engage with Youth on Community Sustainability
 - 9.4 Reduce and Compost Organic Waste
 - 10.1 Encourage an Equitable and Just Food System
 - 10.4 Develop and Promote Community Growing Spaces
 - 10.5 Support Equitable Food Access and Local Farms
 - 10.6 Plan and Prepare for Extreme Heat
- Some of these required Gold Actions have already been, at least partially, completed during our other certifications. C. Szwed will use the integrated Action Tracker to investigate which Actions are complete and which ones we need to prioritize for Gold.
- Agree on timeline for strategic mosaic of Actions
 - Tabled this because we ran out of time

- New Business

- Barbara Carr (R) attended this meeting as a guest because she is interested in joining SusLitch as a Committee member. She resides in Bantam. Her email address is bjjcar123@aol.com J. Zullo motioned to nominate B. Carr to the Committee. D. Larsson seconded. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

- Adjournment and next meeting date
 - J. Zullo motioned to adjourn meeting at 5:13pm. K. Winter seconded. All in favor.
 - Next meeting is a Special Meeting on Weds, Nov. 8 at the Bantam Annex at 3:30pm.