

Sustainability Committee
Minutes of the Meeting
Video Conference
May 11, 2022

Present: Lynn Stoddard, Katie Fraton, Peter Millman, Josh Walters, Matt Lisy, Al Fraton, Virginia Walton (staff)

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 pm by chairperson Stoddard. Walters was seated for Bill Lennon.

On a motion by Lisy/Millman, the April 13, 2022 meeting minutes were approved.

Members learned about the Non-Residential Solar Renewable Energy Solutions (NRES) Program. NRES is a successor program to the Low Emission Renewable Energy Credit and Zero Emission Renewable Energy Credit (LREC/ZREC) and Virtual Net Metering (VNM) programs with the objectives to foster the sustained, orderly development of the state's Class I renewable energy industry and to encourage the participation by customers in underserved and environmental justice communities. The program is authorized to run for six (6) years.

Solar installations currently underway in town –

1. Landfill – 2,700 kW. Titan energy submitted a proposal to the State. Should know if the proposal is accepted by the end of the month.
2. MMS – 92 kW rooftop. In process while the roof is being done.
3. New Elementary School – 454 kW. School under construction now.
4. Public Works Garage – 86.51 kW through Solar MAP. Public Works recently received shipment of the inverter.

Millman will update the e-mail that was sent to E. O. Smith a few months ago about solar carports in order to send to the EO Smith School Board.

Al Fraton joined at 6:31 pm.

Walton reported that the Town received \$14,872 from nips money. With last year's updated bottle bill, Mansfield, along with every CT municipality, will be receiving money for the sale of nips within town every April and October. Members suggested ways to use the fund that include collaborating with Region 19 towns to purchase washable food service for EO Smith High School; piloting business composting; and/or providing pet waste containers for the parks. Walton will take these ideas to the Solid Waste Advisory Committee.

The Committee evaluated the April 23, 2022 Earth Extravaganza – a nice line-up of activities favorably received by those who attended that needed much more advertising.

The Center for EcoTechnology (CET), out of Massachusetts, has been working with some Connecticut communities - Mansfield being one - to strategize ways to elevate deconstruction as an option. On May 16, 2022, representatives from the Windham and Mansfield building projects will be meeting with CET to discuss furniture salvage and potential soft strips for the school projects that are underway in both towns.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:02 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Virginia Walton