



Lee Sustainability Advisory Committee Meeting
Minutes – August 9, 2022; 7 PM
1st floor Meeting Room, Lee Public Safety Complex
George Bennett Road, Lee, NH

Members Present: Dean Rubine (Chair), Paul Gasowski, Chuck Cox, Jennifer Messeder (via Zoom)

Members Absent: N/A

Officials Present: N/A

Public Present: N/A

I. Call to Order: 7:03 pm

Remotely participating members must declare any persons present. Jen attended via Zoom and was alone.

Roll call votes are required when any members are remote.

Introductions, guests: N/A

II. Public Comments: N/A

III. Preliminary Actions

A. Approval of Agenda

No updates were suggested. Agenda was approved as is by consensus.

B. Approval of Minutes

July 12 - Edits marked in Google Drive were reviewed, discussed and approved. No other revisions were suggested.

C. Correspondence

- Steve Bullek RE Draft NH Solid Waste Management Plan
- Jen RE request to collaborate from Lee Greeters

D. Other: N/A

IV. Updates on Old Business

A. Paul – ArtisticLEE – Artisan Directory pilot

Paul sent out a revised list of categories and a PDF mockup of a home page for an eventual web site.

Jen sent out a new PDF registration form with fillable fields.

Paul reported that there are some fillable forms on the Town web site.

The LSC discussed the logistics of sending out our current PDF form and receiving completed forms back from artists. If we email the current form with the initial information packet, we can ask the artists to fill out the form and email it back to us.

Jen noted that the conversion of the Word form to PDF converted the signature field to a field that requires the user to upload a digital signature file. This is more secure, but could be an obstacle for users. She can change the field on the PDF to be a simple text field.

DECIDED: Jen to change the signature field to a text field.

ACTIONS:

- Jen to change the digital signature field to a text field.
- Paul to draft the cover email, cover letter, categories list, and home page mockup for LSC review.
- All to review Paul's drafts.

B. All – Lee Fair 2022

Dean has submitted our booth application, requesting that we be next to the Energy Committee.

Paul will be at the Fair, but not all day. He'd prefer to staff the booth. Dean will also staff the booth.

Things for the table:

- ArtisticLEE draft documents
- One Bin book
- RCWG final report
- Backyard Farming information
- Drought articles
- Bookmarks with info about us
- “Recycle or No?” game, simplified (sort items into two piles?)

We received feedback from Mr. Fox about best practices for collecting non-contaminated compost at the Fair. The guidelines are a high hurdle. We would need people staffing the cans, and we don't have enough people this year.

DECIDED: We will not offer to staff compost buckets.

ACTIONS:

- Jen dig up her Recycle or No materials and simplify the game. It will be for fun and education only, no prizes.
- Jen to let Steve Bullek know that we won't assist with compost this year. Include Mr. Fox's email.
- Paul to review his bookmark file from a previous year and rework it for this year.

C. All – Transfer Station Initiatives

Jen/Dean — New TS signs

Jen reported that she didn't have an opportunity to print and deliver a new sign to Steve.

There are no changes yet at the Transfer Station that would require changes to the One Bin book or the signs.

All –Reduce consumption, increase recycling

We'll have educational items at the Fair. We already have a few other E-Crier articles in flight and should complete those before beginning another.

Chuck suggested an evening conversation similar to Backyard Farming, but focused on reducing consumption and increasing recycling. We could invite the public to our October meeting and can advertise this at the Fair.

Dean – No lithium batteries in MSW!

The article has appeared in the E-Crier. It came out well.

All – Video explaining how to recycle?

Dean talked to Cathi Stetson, who no longer leads the video production group at the Oyster River High School. He obtained the name of the new person, but hasn't had a chance to talk to them yet.

D. Dean/Paul – Tech/MS Teams/SharePoint

Dean hasn't heard anything more from Andy Robertson about the LSC Google Drive. He plans to meet with Andy on Wednesday 8/10.

No word yet about the town's new Microsoft space. Town budgeting should begin soon (if it hasn't already). Should the LSC suggest that the town hire an IT person to manage these issues?

We've heard that at least one other committee is having success with the new Microsoft space. Who are they, and can we learn from them?

ACTIONS:

- Dean to ask Andy Robertson what the town's common solution is for all committees.
- Dean to discover which Committees are using Microsoft successfully.
- Paul to discover what the town pays Back Bay.

E. Paul – Sustainability within the ORCSD

Nothing new yet.

F. Chuck – Backyard Farming Initiative 2022

Ruth Sample is the next presenter on 8/24. This is the last planned session for the summer.

The Backyard Farming Initiative Committee will meet in September to determine if they will have a winter program.

G. Dean/Chuck – *Table to Farm* Compost Initiative

Chuck brought a copy of the Agricultural Commission's Agriculture and Farm List to Dean.

Dean shared his draft letter with Steve Bullek, who is uncertain if compost that comes to the Transfer Station can go out to someone who doesn't have a composting license. This is a question for the NH DES.

Another issue is "forever chemicals," which are a big problem for compost and water contamination.

The path forward might be to pair farms with compost contributors, getting the town out of the middle.

ACTION:

- Dean to reply to Steve Bullek and Andy Robertson about what the Transfer Station can and can't do, based on what Mike Nork has said.
- Dean to raise the issue of contamination with Steve and Andy.

H. Dean – Drought and water conservation

Dean to work on repurposing a past article about water conservation.

Jen reported that they have about 18 inches of water in their old dug well. (The well is about 10-11 feet deep, 3-4 feet in diameter.)

I. Other: N/A

V. New Business

A. Jen - Collaborate with Lee Greeters on recycle bins?

At the July meeting of the Lee Greeters Committee, a topic of discussion was ideas for Welcome gifts for new residents. One idea was to provide a recycling bin with other local goodies in it.

Jen was asked to liaise with the LSC on the recycle bin part. Would the LSC be open to collaborating with the Greeters on supplying a bin for each new household?

The Greeters don't have a budget yet, which prompts the desire to collaborate.

The LSC is inclined to collaborate, but has questions:

- What kind/size of bin?
- How much would a bin cost?
- How many are needed per year?
- If the Transfer Station can get a bulk order for cheaper, can we look into doing that?

ACTION: Jen to pass the LSC's decision and questions back to the Greeters.

B. All - Draft NH Solid Waste Management Plan

Steve Bullek forwarded information about the NH DES's Draft NH Solid Waste Management Plan to Jen, who forwarded it to the LSC. NHDES will accept written comments by mail or email until 4:00PM on August 26, 2022.

Dean read the goals for the plan and noted that he didn't have any initial comments on it.

Paul likes it and has no comments at this time.

DECIDED: The LSC as a whole isn't inclined to send a formal response, but members can comment as individuals if they want to.

ACTION: Jen to reply to Steve to thank him for sending this along. Please let the DES know we like the report and have no comments at this time.

C. Other: Annual Farm Days on 8/20

The Agricultural Commission and Oyster River Foodshed Alliance are sponsoring this event. The Lee Library has copies of the flyer.

VI. Public Comments: N/A

VII. Closing Actions

A. Future Meeting Dates: Dean to look to set up Sept 6; Oct 11; Nov 1; Dec 13

B. Agenda Planning for Next Meeting (including COVID status)

As above, with the Fair as our priority

VIII. Adjournment:

Chuck moved to adjourn. Paul seconded. Approved by roll call vote – Jen Yes; Dean Yes; Chuck Yes; Paul Yes.

Meeting adjourned at 9:02 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Jen Messeder

Please email sustain@leenh.org if you have suggestions, comments or questions.