



Lee Sustainability Advisory Committee Meeting
Minutes - September 6, 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

Members Absent: N/A

Officials Present: N/A

Public Present: N/A

I. Call to Order: 7:03 pm

Introductions, guests: N/A

II. Public Comments: N/A

III. Preliminary Actions

A. Approval of Agenda

No updates were suggested. Dean moved to accept the agenda. Chuck seconded. Agenda approved 4:0.

B. Approval of Minutes

8/9/22 - Edits marked in Google Drive were reviewed and accepted. No other changes were noted.

Paul moved to accept the minutes as amended. Chuck seconded. Approved 4:0.

C. Correspondence

- Dean, LSC RE draft drought article
- Dean, Steve Bullek, LSC RE Table to Farm obstacles
- Jen, Lee Greeters, Steve Bullek RE collaboration on recycle bins
- Jen, Steve Bullek RE composting at the Fair, Draft NH Solid Waste Management Plan, transfer station signs
- Paul, LSC RE DRAFT ArtisticLEE Packet
- Paul, LSC RE draft bookmark for the Fair
- Jen, LSC RE Town's SharePoint site for committees

D. Other: N/A

IV. Updates on Old Business

A. All – Lee Fair 2022

The Fair begins at 1 pm with the tractor parade. Set up must be complete before that, though we need to clarify what time. Booths can stay up until after the fireworks or until Sunday morning to reduce traffic during the Fair.

Jen passed along the "Recycle or No" materials, the event box and the file box to Dean.

Jen explained what is in the event box, including the six remaining Low Carbon Diet books that are free to Lee households. We considered various options for giving out books, and whether we are in a position to sponsor another study group in the near future.

DECIDED: We are not ready to sponsor another group, so we will not give out books or have a sign-up sheet. We will have a book on display.

Paul uploaded a draft of the LSC bookmark to the Google Drive. Members made comments and suggestions online, and the revised version was declared ready for our final review.

ACTIONS:

- Dean to ask Caren Rossi what time set up needs to be complete; will she bring the LSC banner; other instructions?
- Dean to bring his gazebo, two tables and a tablecloth to the Fair.
- Dean to print out some One Bin books to give away and recent E-Crier articles for display.
- Dean to provide an LSC sign-up sheet.
- Paul to bring the pilot ArtisticLEE package for display.
- Chuck to provide Backyard Farming Initiative flyers for display.
- LSC members to give final review of the LSC bookmark by end of day 9/13.
- Paul to print the final bookmark to give out at the Fair.

B. Paul – ArtisticLEE – Artisan Directory pilot

Paul made some adjustments to the package. We have 8 artists interested currently.

We have until Fri 9/9 to provide additional comments.

ACTIONS:

- LSC members to give final review of the package by end of day 9/9.
- Paul to finalize the packet and send it to Andy Robertson for his review.
- Paul to print some copies for display at the Fair (see above IV.A).

C. All – Transfer Station Initiatives

Jen/Dean – New TS signs

Steve has not accepted our offers to print new signs and is not interested in working with us. This item can be removed from our agenda.

All – Reduce consumption, increase recycling

We hope our presence at the Fair will help.

All – Video explaining how to recycle?

Dean sent the One Bin Book to Jen Weeks (ORHS video class teacher), and she passed it along to Jon Bromley (ORHS Sustainability Club advisor). They will see if any of the students are interested in this project.

We haven't heard back yet.

ACTION: Dean to send all LSC members the email with Jen Weeks as an FYI.

Collaboration with Steve Bullek

Steve has expressed discontentment with the LSC and that he's not inclined to work with us at this time. This might change the way we approach the recycling video. For example, if some students want to pursue the project, they and the video class or Sustainability Club could ask Steve directly if he's interested.

DECIDED: We will pause our Transfer Station initiatives until/unless we can find a way to adjust our processes to work better with Steve.

D. Dean/Paul – Tech/SharePoint

Dean reported that the IT committee's official name is the Municipal Technology Advisory Committee (MTAC) and there are three members – Dean, Bob Woodward and Christopher Haller. Their first meeting is Monday 9/12.

Paul reached out to Andy Robertson and Joanne Clancy about a financial comparison between working with Back Bay and hiring an IT person. Andy's opinion is that Back Bay is giving us the best value for the money.

Also, the Select Board has asked that all town departments not request discretionary funding in next year's budget, so there will be no funds for a new position.

Jen reported that she received a SharePoint invitation email related to the Greeters Committee and now has access to the SharePoint space and all committees that are currently set up there, including the LSC's space. She uses SharePoint at work and is happy to help the LSC get set up.

E. Paul – Sustainability within the ORCSD

The possible collaboration with Jen Weeks and Jon Bromley on recycling videos could open a door here.

F. Chuck – Backyard Farming Initiative 2022

The summer series went well, though it did not get as much attendance as the old winter sessions did at the Grange. The BFI Committee will turn its attention to future series.

Feedback from Dean:

- It would have been good to serve fresh food from the farms as refreshments
- Name tags would have been helpful
- Having to get the addresses from the Library was a hurdle

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

Dean emailed Steve Bullek about the idea for this initiative and the very real obstacles of regulations and contamination.

Per Steve, if the Transfer Station collects the compost, it can only be sent to a licensed composter. Also, the issue of forever chemicals and herbicides, and the possibility of lawsuits, are huge concerns.

Paul wondered about the potential contamination of the yard waste compost that's available at the Transfer Station. Dean and Jen understand that this is assumed to be contaminated and not recommended for food crops. It might be helpful to have Steve advise residents on the status of this pile.

DECIDED: We will table this topic for now.

H. Dean – Drought and water conservation

The article has appeared a couple of times.

ACTION: Dean to continue sending articles as long as we are in drought.

I. Jen - Collaborate with Lee Greeters on recycle bins

Pending the next Greeters meeting. The town has "pandemic" money that the Greeters might be able to use to purchase bins and other materials.

J. Other: N/A

V. New Business

A. FY 2024 Budget Meeting 9/29

We have 10 minutes on the agenda. We can repurpose the presentation we used last year, probably removing the IT item, given that the town now has the MTAC. Committee agreed to request \$1000 like last year.

ACTIONS:

- Dean to contact Denise about presenting at the meeting.
- Dean to add budget to the MTAC agenda.
- Jen to make sure the Greeters Committee is aware that the process is starting, and prepared to present as needed.

B. Other

VI. Public Comments: N/A

VII. Closing Actions

A. Future Meeting Dates: October 11, November 1, December 13

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

As above

VIII. Adjournment:

Jen moved to adjourn. Chuck seconded. Approved 4:0.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Jen Messeder

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