

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**Sustainable Sharon Coalition Monthly Meeting**  
**Wednesday, November 3, 2021, 7:00 - 8:30 PM**  
**Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/3524688267>**

In attendance: Marlene Arnold, Ellen Bordman, Megan Burnett, Eve Carey, Molli Denrich, Ralph Halpern, Laura Henze Russell, Zobia Imam, Judy Jacobs, Paul Lauenstein, Michael Littman, Rory McGregor, Kathi Mirza, Ted Philips, Charlotte Pototsky, Jan Sargent-Tracy, Cheryl Schnitzer, Dave Slater, Becky Snow, Ricky Stern, Maggie Sullivan, Hanna Switekowski, Simone Tamkin, Debbie Tatro, Emily Whitney, Alice Zaniewski

1. Welcome: New member (Becky Snow) recited the Vision Statement: *we inspire, educate, connect, and catalyze our community to protect the planet.*
2. Presidents Remarks:
  - a. Kathi Mirza, who has been our MassDEP MAC (Municipal Assistance Coordinator), is being promoted (Congratulations Kathi!) and we will have a new MAC moving forward.
  - b. Face-to-face meetings will resume in March.
3. Secretary's Report (Marlene): October minutes were accepted.
4. SSC Interest Group Reports - The attendees broke into breakout rooms to brainstorm ideas and reported back to the group as follows:
  - a. Energy (Ralph, Maggie, Michael, Paul) - Last month, we learned about a proposed \$90M pipeline project that will be going through Sharon. We will listen in on a hearing in another town to see how it goes with a similar planned project, and then we will organize to fight it. On a separate note, we are considering having Sharon Energy Advisory come speak at a future meeting.
  - b. Zero Waste (Debbie, Alice, Becky, Eve, Kathi, Molly, Ricky) - Working with HS students to go around to restaurants and discuss more sustainable options (part of "Skip the Stuff" campaign). Then perhaps going on to talk about toxicity of polystyrene or getting into reusables.
  - c. Water (Laura, Rory) - Want to build on momentum of concern over algae/E. coli issues. Want to move forward with the Warrant article, reach out to residents about limiting use of PFAS and phosphates, and better engage with the high school in Restoring the Ocean club.
  - d. Communications/10th year anniversary (Ellen, Cheryl, Dave, Marlene, Megan, Simone) - Would like to reveal logo and revamp our website ahead of Green Day, which would be the kick-off of our 10th anniversary. There would be a series of

events throughout the year organized by different SSC Interest Groups to mark the occasion. Also formed a group to look into vendor options to help revamp our site.

- e. Youth (Charlotte, Emily, Zobia) - various ways to work with other environmental groups such as litter cleanup. Next meeting Nov 12. Planning fundraiser to benefit an environmental organization and how to help with “skip the stuff” campaign with Zero Waste SIG.

#### 5. Other Reports:

- a. Ted Philips, State Representative: Continuing to make progress on the Extended Producer Responsibility bill. The state will be receiving \$5.3B from American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) plus \$1.4B surplus to spend and some of it will be going to environmental causes. Will be able to present a report with more details at next month’s meeting. Joined the Zero Waste caucus, which is fastest growing caucus.
- b. Hanna Switekowski, Select Board: Shout out to Mike on a great community bike ride event. Would love to see similar events throughout the year that engage the community and promote sustainability. Still looking at the water treatment issues. No PFAS has been resurfacing which is good. Will be looking into more waste/recycling options in the near future.

#### 5. Announcements/ items to share

- a. Mike - Halloween bike ride was a great success. Hoping to plan more community rides in the future.
- b. Ellen - “Conversations at the Meeting House” takes place Dec 3rd. 4 of us will be presenting including Syllas Fyler from Energy Advisory Committee.
- c. Paul/Simone - Check out Aptera solar powered 3-wheel EV which can go 1,000 miles on a single charge: [Watch Aptera's Solar-Powered 3-Wheel EV](#)
- d. Rory - Everyone needs to help clean their storm drains, to help DPW who doesn’t have the manpower to do so. Can dump the waste or throw it out with trash or compost.
- e. Megan started a calendar section on the website.
- f. Molli - Reminder about the "Sponsor a Street” initiative to help clean up streets.

#### 6. Next Meetings

- SSC Board Meeting: Wednesday, November 17, 2021, 7 PM by Zoom
- SSC Monthly Meeting: Wednesday, December 1, 2021, 7 PM by Zoom

#### 7. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM

Minutes submitted by Marlene Arnold