

MEETING MINUTES
Sustainable Sharon Coalition General Meeting
Wednesday, February 3, 2021, 7:00 PM
Zoom Remote Meeting, <https://zoom.us/j/3524688267>

In attendance: Aneeza Ahmad, Marlene Arnold, Ellen Bordman, Nivedi Das, Molli Denrich, Kathy Farrell, Silas Fyler, Ralph Halpern, Tim Humphreys, Judith Karlin, Sharon Kishida, Bri McAlevey, Rory McGregor, Charlotte Pototsky, Helen Poynton, Vicki Reidelberger, Cheryl Schnitzer, David Slater, Debbie Tatro, Elizabeth Thomson, Julie Volkman

Additional attendance for the Read for the Planet book group: Liz Moore, Mia Joiner-Moore

1. Bri recited the Vision Statement for the group.
2. Read for the Planet Book Group discussion (Chapters 4-7): Larger group separated into 3 break-out rooms for easier discussion. Each was asked to discuss the 3 mindsets of “Stubborn Optimism,” “Endless Abundance,” and “Radical Regeneration” and what resonates with them.
3. Motion to approve the minutes from the January meeting. Passed with no objections.
4. President’s Remarks: Started meeting quickly in the interest of time.
5. Treasurer’s Report: David reported that we received \$360 in donations this month.
6. Committee Chair Reports
 - a. Energy & Climate:
 - i. SSC is sponsoring a webinar hosted by David Green called “Zero Carbon, Zero Bills”. It will occur on Feb 24th 7-8pm. Register with link: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/zero-carbon-zero-bills-for-sharon-tickets-135412734133>.
 - ii. Sharon Power Choice Status (Silas Fyler): 5943 people received letters, 32 opted up, 161 down, 119 opted out. There’s some confusion whether customers need to quit other green sources (e.g. community solar) to do this and the answer is do not cancel community solar. Although not a lot of people opted up, should feel good that over 5600 residents are now going to use 20% cleaner energy. Expecting “opt up” to grow.
 - iii. We need to pressure legislators to pass the climate bill which was vetoed by Governor Baker. Need congress to override. See Facebook page or https://docs.google.com/document/d/1bmDDsn_MIx6DOV8a--XCtsH6yf-Uq_iVwOphgCbCHQY/edit for more info.
 - b. Zero Waste Committee: (Debbie Tatro)

- i. Presidential Plastics Action Plan meeting is Feb 10th to discuss priorities. The new head of the EPA is aware of the plan and agreed that the EPA should take a close look at it.
 - ii. Cheryl has been in communication with USEFULL, a company that lends reusable, stainless steel containers to restaurants.
- c. 10th Anniversary (Cheryl Schnitzer)
 - i. Dave, Simone and Cheryl met and came up with the idea to have the anniversary celebration coincide with Green Day 2022 event. Liz Thomson volunteered for this task force as well.
- d. Communications (Ellen Bordman)
 - i. Website updates are going well with our new webmaster volunteer (Megan Burnett)
 - ii. Does anyone want to be a FB host to get back to those who enter and say they want to volunteer?
- e. Youth (Aneeza Ahmad)
 - i. Environmental club fundraiser to plant trees (\$250/tree). Promoting Homeworks energy audit and getting \$50 for each signup.
 - ii. SSC might also make a direct donation with our funds and will check if there are any funds leftover that were earmarked for trees.

7. Old Business

- a. Reminder to Board members to answer three quick questions to help facilitate the upcoming board meeting:
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSejES9tbN93nArDbd71qw-FwQLVTumCdBG7MBjHSDImf1IdTA/viewform?usp=pp_url

8. New Business

- a. Rory - Do we want to plan a Lake Massapoag Cleanup? Can be big or small and controlled with Covid. We could partner with Neponset River Watershed. Best timeframe would be May/June. Could be used as a community service opportunity for HS students. Need people to help with this - let Rory know if you're interested. Could also combine with fundraiser of some type. Work with Sharon Friends of Conservation.
- b. Bri/Helen - Future outdoor film screenings? Could partner with Moosehill Wildlife Sanctuary for venue.
- c. Cheryl - Meeting forum for School Committee candidates? There are 5 openings including temporary vacancies (2 people resigned). Election is in May.
 - i. Adam/Julie staying. 7-8 people running for openings so far.
 - ii. Suggestion to come up with a list of questions that they answer and we post online, rather than having them speak at a meeting. Cheryl will send prompt from last time to Bri for an idea for a prompt this time.

- d. Bri/Kathi M./Cheryl met with SPS Superintendent and Town Administrator to encourage re-hiring of a part-time recycling coordinator for the schools and town.
- 9. Next General Meeting: Wednesday, March 3, 2021 at 7:00 PM. A semi-annual Board Meeting is scheduled for February 17th at 7:00 PM.
- 10. Adjournment at 8:35 PM.

Minutes submitted by Marlene Arnold