

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**Sustainable Sharon Coalition General Meeting**  
**Wednesday, November 4, 2020, 7:00 PM**  
**Zoom Remote Meeting, <https://zoom.us/j/3524688267>**

In Attendance: Ellen Bordman, Molli Denrich, Silas Fyler, Lauren Goloboy, Judy Leher Jacobs, Paul Lauenstein, Bri McAlevey, Kathi Mirza, Michael Pierce, Charlotte Pototsky, Helen Poynton, Cheryl Schnitzer, David Slater, Ricky Stern, Debbie Tatro, Melissa Tian, Sandra Widland, Elisa Van Dijk (Sunrise Blue Hills), Amber Marcus Blank (Sunrise Blue Hills)

1. Welcome/Presidents Report: Cheryl led in reciting the Vision Statement, reviewed meeting logistics, and reported on the following items:
  - a. Minutes from the October SSC meeting were approved and passed by email vote.
  - b. Thank you to Board members for submitting bios, and to Debbie for posting them. If you haven't submitted a photo or bio please do so.
  - c. The three year moratorium on artificial turf passed at Town Meeting.
  - d. The SSC Environmental Justice webinar (co-sponsored with Temple Sinai Social Justice Committee and Sharon Racial Equity Alliance) was wonderful! You can view a recording of "Shining a Spotlight on Environmental Justice: How Climate Change, Public Health, and Racism Intersect" at <https://www.facebook.com/SustainableSharon>
  - e. Looking for a liaison to MCAN (Massachusetts Climate Action Network) and to sign up SSC as an MCAN chapter.
    - o Judy Leher Jacobs volunteered to be the liaison and will find out if there is any cost to becoming an affiliate.
  - f. We are planning an 'Induction Cooking with Beth Rodio' Zoom event. Bri explained that Beth will be giving the cooking demonstration, Paul will give an introduction and Bri will manage the Q & A. The cooking demo will be vegan and gluten free. It will be recorded and posted to the SSC website.
  - g. We are looking for a new SSC Webmaster again. (Email [support@sustainablesharon](mailto:support@sustainablesharon) if you, or or someone you know, is interested.)
  - h. SSC has been invited to speak at the Unitarian Church of Sharon meeting. Bri will let them know that SSC would like to commit to this and we will come up with the agenda a little bit later.
  - i. If you aren't yet receiving the SSC e-newsletter, you can sign up at [https://mailchi.mp/ff3553634398/subscription\\_to\\_newsletter](https://mailchi.mp/ff3553634398/subscription_to_newsletter).
  - j. Thank you to Ellen for our new SSC YouTube Channel: <https://m.youtube.com/channel/Ucti8GIR-GuPMwy966PYwwhA>
2. Treasurer's Report: David Slater reported that we receive revenue from a variety of sources and will be giving a detailed Treasurer's report next month.
3. For a recap on renewable energy in town, go to <https://www.townofsharon.net/energy-advisory-committee>,

4. Sunrise Blue Hills Presentation: Elisa Van Dijk and Amber Marcus-Blank gave a presentation on Sunrise Blue Hills, a local youth-led organization that is part of the national Sunrise Movement. They work to combat governmental inaction towards the environment and climate change through all forms of public advocacy.
  - Future work includes growing their hubs as well as getting legislation passed and fighting for the Green New Deal.
  - Ages of youth range from 14 years old to first-year students in college. Adult allies are encouraged.
  - Opportunities for SSC and Sunrise Blue Hills to work together?
5. Cheryl addressed the Committee Chairs with the following notes:
  - a. Great work on SSC Strategic Plans for 2020-21. There are still a couple of committees that need to fill it in. Please keep an eye on goals for the year as you have your committee meetings.
  - b. Please keep your website page updated.
  - c. Reminder about policy on using SSC's name: An SSC board member may sign a petition/letter on SSC's behalf or post publicly using SSC's name by following this procedure:
    - 1) At least two SSC board members agree to sign and report to the full board via email; this action is then recorded and included in the next month's SSC meeting minutes.
    - 2) If time allows, follow best practice of emailing the SSC board prior to using SSC's name and say something descriptive and brief like, "Unless I hear otherwise within 24 hours, I will sign as SSC the following..."
    - 3) If in doubt, post as an individual and don't mention SSC.
6. Cheryl floated the idea of having a type of Book club where we could share insights about the assigned reading, post in Facebook group and have drawings with prizes. One suggested first book: The Future We Choose, Surviving the Climate Crisis.
  - Participants noted that they loved the idea of the book club. *All We Can Save* was suggested as a good read as well.
  - Bri offered to volunteer for the 1st book and then see how it goes.
7. Project/Committee updates
  - a. Reusable shopping bags (Ricky): Remind people they can use reusable shopping bags at stores and mesh or compostable produce bags
    - You can still order bags on the SSC website
    - We may want to meet with Shaws as they continue to use plastic bags (in reaction to Covid-19), however they are following the rules of their national office. The DOH lifted the requirement for stores to use plastic bags during COVID. It was suggested that the Green Team and Sunrise could help us bring attention to this. Debbie will try to get on a meeting with the Sharon Board of Health

- b. Litter clean-ups (Rory, Lauren/Tommy, Molli): Resident-network that performs litter pickup, storm drain cleaning, and sidewalk clearing.
    - Maybe plan to post storm drain cleaning instructions (included in agenda) on SSC and town websites (talk to Rory McGregor).
    - Suggest getting some sponsorships for “sponsor-a-street.”
    - What is the fine for littering? Maybe a warrant article coming up in the May town meeting.
8. New business: Paul would like to have a forum about natural grass on town athletic fields. Should be coming up this winter.

Next SSC monthly meeting: Wed. Dec. 2nd, 7:00 PM

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM

Minutes submitted by Sandra Widland