

CITY OF PORTSMOUTH, NEW HAMPSHIRE
BLUE RIBBON COMMITTEE ON SUSTAINABLE
PRACTICES

April 27, 2017 MEETING

DATE: April 27, 2017
TIME: 6:00 – 8:00 PM
PLACE: City Manager’s CONFERENCE ROOM

MEMBERS: JOSH DENTON, LARRY LAREVIERE, JACOB LEVENSON, PETER BRITZ.

MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES FROM March 23, 2017

III. NEW BUSINESS

1. Hodgson Brook Walking Tour

Discussion of walking tour. Two parts. Transportation and HB restoration. Start at Cate St. at the Bridge and park there. Then see the brook from there and walk down Cate St. and go into Brown’s property (PK Brown) owner and look at how site can be developed as a path/trail. Also look at makerspace or old Altex cleaners for daylighting the brook.

2. Residential Curbside Composting Pilot Program

Josh: Estimates for composting \$524k for contractor versus city purchase truck for \$851K. Josh interested in a pilot program with a contractor, other Councilors wanted to



have City approach reviewed. Josh wants to get this in so the Council can review costs in advance of budget. Jacob: Rules for food waste are not in place for commercial composting but the State is trying to build a program and put rules in place to allow for them.

Right now it appears to be an expensive approach given the current infrastructure. A report will be provided at the May 15 City Council mtg. Survey at household haz waste day will include questions about composting to help better our understanding of household food waste.

3. Roundup vs. Avenger

Item for next month's agenda. Avenger is much more and not as effective. Still questions about costs and need for.

4. Committee Status

5. Committee Vision and Priorities

6. LED Street Lights

Jacob: 50% installation complete. Will be getting a \$50K rebate.

7. Plastic Bag Ban Update

Josh: At second reading ordinance was tabled. The third reading was not voted on but it is possible for it to come back at a future meeting or we could make a policy change i.e. no plastic bags at city events. In next legislature (2019) there could be enabling legislation voted in.

8. Energize 360

Josh: Official campaign kicked-off. City passed a resolution in support of it. Asked that City staff help out with planning process.

Larry signed up for the audit at the Durham home show and a friend also signed up but neither has heard back yet.

9. Saturday there is a Citizen's Climate March in Portsmouth with League of Conservation Voters and Resistance Seacoast. Carol Shea Porter speaking (Senator Sheehan may be there).

**10. Conservation Commission does not have a City Councilor.
State Statue or City regs do not speak to it. Now would be the
time if we wanted to do it since there is an alternate opening on
the commission.**

11. Handprint party at the library.

**12. Minutes will be put on the computer at the meeting more
streamlined.**

IV. ADJOURNMENT – Meeting adjourned 7:10

V. Next meeting May 25th