CITY OF PORTSMOUTH, NEW HAMPSHIRE

BLUE RIBBON COMMITTEE ON SUSTAINABLE

PRACTICES

June 27, 2019 MEETING

DATE: June 27, 2019

TIME: 6:30 – 8:30 PM

PLACE: CONFERENCE ROOM A

MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. MEMBERS PRESENT

Burt Cohen, Josh Denton, Larry LaRiviere, Carrie Mayo, Tracey Cameron, Lucy Travino, Lidya Fedorowich, John Kennedy, Jacob Levenson, and Peter Britz

Guests: Griffin Brown and Wes Tator

III. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES FROM MAY 23, 2019

IV. OLD BUSINESS:

Minutes from April and May accepted as amended to include John Kennedy and Jessica as attendees. The meeting was a discussion about the Green New Deal to gage the feeling of it among the attendees. No votes were taken at the May meeting as there was not a quorum.

V. NEW BUSINESS:

Griffin Brown, and intern working with the City for the summer, spoke about the Greenhouse Gas Inventory within the City and how he will determine a comparison from the past 6 years and now. He will report back in July.

Sustainability and the New City Manager was discussed. A person with a passion for climate change was identified as a key component in hiring a new City Manager. A letter was drafted at the close of the meeting by Bert and Tracy and approved by the Committee through e-mail.

Low income community solar and how we can support the bill was a topic we were made aware of. Tracy will send out information.

Carbon Dividend Act of 2019 was updated by Wes Tator. Bill #HR763 is currently before congress. Our Committee was asked to endorse it and the Committee did vote unanimously to do so.

Josh Denton updated on the status of single use disposable Ordinance and the fact that we only have control of the use of plastic on city property without further state regulations.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm

Minutes taken by Larry Lariviere.

VI.

- 1. Old Business
 - i Voted to approve minutes from last meeting
- **2.** Committee status
 - i Carry Mayo application on City Council agenda for April 1st to become member of sustainability committee
- **3.** UNH Sustainability Fellow
 - **i** City chose a student fellow to complete a greenhouse gas inventory during this summer
- 4. Membership
 - i Updated committee members on website

- ii Add the three eco-club members names to the City Website as committee members
- iii Take Lindsay off the website
- 5. Distribution of Single-Use Disposables Ordinance
 - i No town in NH has banned plastic bags. Josh reintroduced updated ban from 5 years ago with ban on plastic bags and 10 cent fee on paper bag. Even though paper bags consume more energy and water to produce than plastic bags, the goal is to promote reusable bag use.
- 6. Update to Solar Array Requirements
- 7. Hodgson Brook Update
 - i City working on multi use path along north mill pond. The water that feeds into north mill pond comes from Hodgson Brook. Desire to remove maker space building and daylight Hodgson Brook into North Mill Pond.
- 8. Climate Hour on WSCA
 - i Starting tomorrow Josh will be on radio one Friday a month at noon 106.1 talking about climate issues with Wes Tator.
- 9. High school trays
 - i School board has ended Styrofoam trays and moved to paper compostable trays. 450 students signed a petition.
- **10.**Energy Efficiency
 - i Energy efficiency is a key point in Renewable Energy Policy.
 - ii How can we help promote energy efficiency in the community?
 - iii Difference between energy efficiency and renewable energy. Energy efficiency is more cost effective way to reduce CO2 emissions than renewable energy production.
- **11.HPP** Sustainable design
 - **i** SAREI and Sustainability Alliance are looking at a handprint party on sustainable design of clothing.
- 12.Maple Syrup
 - **i** Eco club attended pancake breakfast at UNH where farmers spoke about effects of climate change

ii Major effects are the times harvest season start or end. More unpredictable than past years

VII. ADJOURNMENT

April meeting: Jacob to facilitate John to record