

Sustainability Working Group (SWG)

Minutes: September 19, 2022 (Zoom)

Attending: Camille Parrish

Tim MacLeod

Ralph Harder (recorder)

Silver Moore-Leamon

Sharon Benoit

Guests: Derek Boulanger - SWG liaison, City of Auburn

Jonathan LaBonte - Transportation Systems Analyst, City of Auburn

Agenda Items:

1. Municipal Composting/Recycling

- a. City Manager to report on details of new (current) solid waste recycling contract at Oct. 13th SNRB meeting.
- b. We Compost It!, composting vendor's use statistics posted by Derek.

2. EV Charging Stations/Municipal vehicles

- a. Tim reviewed Comp and Strategic Plans.
No specific mentions of transition of municipal vehicles to EV or build-out of EV charging infrastructure.
Transportation section of Comp Plan not updated in 2021.
- b. **Discussion:** focus of SWG should be to present cost-benefit analysis to Council in time for upcoming budget planning (January). Derek to guide data gathering for EV vs gas comparison.
- c. Opportunity to involve Bates students in EV project.
Jonathan had preliminary meeting to gauge interest.
- d. **Discussion** SWG would like to meet with students to discuss their topics.

3. Greenhouse Gas Emissions (GHGE)

- a. Council resolve December 2021 aligns Auburn with reducing GHGE state-wide in state climate action plan.
- b. **Discussion:** Should Auburn have it's own Climate Action Plan?

4. Budget for SWG/ Community Partnership Grant.

- a. **Discussion:** Currently no provision for pursuing/administering these grants per Derek. Would need dedicated staff time. ? Raise issue with SNRB and/or City Manager.

Follow-up:

1. Jonathan will coordinate student presence at our next meeting.
2. Tim and Jonathan will further investigate municipal contacts in South Portland and Boston re: EV planning.
3. Ralph will report back on SNRB discussion of items pertinent to SWG activities.

Next Meeting: October 24, 10AM (Zoom)