

Sustainability & Natural Resources Management Board

Minutes: Oct 13, 2022

Approved:

Attending:

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|---|------------------------|
| Community Forest Working Group: | Dave Griswold |
| Conservation Working Group: | Jane Costlow |
| Natural Products & Agriculture Working Group: | Bill Sylvester |
| Sustainability Working Group: | Ralph Harder |
| Mayor's Representative: | Councilor Leroy Walker |
| Planning Board Representative: | Evan Cyr |
| Staff: | City Manager Crowell |

Guests: Kathy Shaw, Katherine Cook, Maurice Keene

Recorder: Dave Griswold

Call to Order: 6:03

- 1. Public Participation:** The question of whether to add an opportunity for public participation to future agendas was raised. A motion was passed 6-0 to have the chair develop a protocol before the January meeting.
- 2. Approval of Minutes:** July 14, 2022 minutes were approved with minor adjustments, 4-0
- 3. Working with Staff:** Mgr Crowell provided a handout outlining staff support for the working groups. Community Forest: Noel Skelton, staff; Director Denis D'Auteuil; Conservation: Staff vacant; Director Eric Cousins; Natural Products and Agriculture: Staff vacant; Director Eric Cousins; Sustainability: Staff Derek Boulanger; Director Dan Goyette; SNRB: Mgr Crowell
 - a. Mgr Crowell reported that the City is working with the School Department to assign staff to a position focused on sustainability. SNRB will have an opportunity to have input on a position description.
- 4. Council Resolve 06-09062022**
 - a. Evan reviewed discussion about the resolve at the Planning Board meeting 10 11.

- i. History of the income requirement and strip zones
 - ii. LD 2003 rulemaking process
 - iii. PB views income requirement and strip zones as separate questions.
 - iv. Looking for pros and cons of both questions from SNRB by 1 4 23, in order to allow for PB to discuss at three meetings and develop response by 3 20 23. Resolve does not include a zoning change proposal, so if the Council decides to make changes, each will be referred back to the PB for a proposal.
 - b. Strip zones are controversial. Are there better alternatives?
 - c. Any change will need to be viewed through the lens of the Comprehensive Plan and Strategic Plan
 - d. Response to Council could be “no change” or “change recommended with qualifications.
 - e. Discussion of degree and method of public input to process.
 - f. Agreed it would be helpful for Eric Cousins to review strip zone history and issues.
 - g. Discussion of how SNRB process should be organized. Jane, Bill, Ralph and Dave will serve as an ad hoc committee of SNRB to refine the process and develop recommendations to bring back to the full SNRB.
5. **Staffing and Funding:** Ralph pointed out that there are details of staffing and funding of Working Groups that need further discussion. He said the model employed for the previous recycling group was a good one.
6. **Climate Action Grants:** The state has grants available for municipalities to use to address climate change. Phil will provide information about how Auburn can qualify to apply. Documents will be posted on the SNRB page.
7. Adjourn: 7:46