

Sustainability Committee**6:30pm****August 20, 2024**FAIRHAVEN TOWN CLERK
RECD 2025 JAN 15 PM 4:00

1. **Chairperson's Welcome and Media Notification:** Chair, Ann Richard opened the meeting at 6:31pm.

2. **Quorum/Attendance**

Present: Chairperson, Ann Richard, Christin Ritz, Karen Gent, Wendy Drumm, Laura Gardner, Tim Garcia

3. **The Inflation Reduction Act**

Laura Gardner presented the Inflation Reduction Act, which provides tax incentives for clean energy and manufacturing. Communities are able to apply to receive funds for tax-exempt entities, such as schools and municipalities to cover eBuses and other resources for greenhouse gas reductions.

4. **Business Ad Hoc committee update**

Tim Garcia shared the Sustainability cards with a QR code to the sustainability webpage.

Mr. Garcia plans on having the Sustainable Business Recognition Google form up on the website in September. By October/November he plans on gauging interest/participation and answer any questions that businesses may have and hopefully attract more businesses to the webpage. He suggested a possible Fairhaven Neighborhood News article in late September.

Christin Ritz suggested the form include an exact measurable; an action to quantify.

5. **Save our Shorebirds**

Wendy Drumm presented updates to the "Save our Shorebirds" program including the Piping Plover nesting enclosures that have been installed on West Island by Jamie Bogart of the Lloyd Center in Dartmouth, MA. Mr. Bogart reported this season encountered the first hatchling since 2020.

Ms. Drumm to provide migration data at the next meeting.

The S.O.S. advertisement/announcement regarding dogs on leashes has been approved to be published in Fairhaven Neighborhood News. Additionally, Beth David is willing to interview Jamie Bogart later this summer.

Conservation Agent, Bruce Webb, will be meeting with the Board of Public Works on August 26th to obtain approval for the Sustainability Committee on signage. The meeting will have a Zoom link for committee members to join.

Ann Richard made a motion to approve the published advertisement upon Town Administrator approval. The motion was seconded by Tim Garcia and passed (6-0).

Action: Bruce Webb to distribute report for the plover season.

Bruce Webb looking into fine amount for leashed dogs.

Ann Richard suggested a live nesting camera for the next plover season to education the public.

6. Plastic Bylaw

Bruce Webb to meet with Health Agent, David Flaherty, to discuss updates.

Ann Richard believes BOH needs to change regulation wording to avoid ambiguity.

Conservation Agent, Bruce Webb, made the committee aware that all plastic complaints should be sent to Dave Flaherty.

7. Costume Collection

Ann Richard has prepared the costume donation swap bin for Kids' Fest, which will be at the Fairhaven High School on October 12, 2024.

Christin Ritz will have a milkweed planting table during Kids' Fest to help gain awareness on the endangered monarch butterfly, which lays eggs on milkweed leaves. Ms. Ritz is looking for milkweed seed pod donations.

Christin Ritz to prepare news release closer to Kids' Fest.

8. Tree Board Discussion

Former Tree Warden, Don Callasius, had initiated the idea of starting a Tree Board before resigning.

Bruce Webb informed the board that the new bylaw has been sent to the attorney general's office for review and will check to see when it takes effect (Chapter 87). Currently, the BPW is responsible for tree maintenance and Bruce Webb is reviewing risk trees.

9. General Business Next meeting: on September

Next scheduled meeting September 17, 2024

Ann Richard – Add flyer to webpage/facebook for Kids Fest.

Ann Richard made a motion to adjourn at 7:24pm. The motion was seconded by Christin Ritz and passed (6-0).