



# TOWN OF HUDSON

## Sustainability Committee



Linda Kipnes, Chairman

Ted Luszey, Selectmen Liaison

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### Sustainability Committee Minutes 23NOV2015

1. Call to order by Linda Kipnes at 7:02pm
2. Attendance: Debbie Putnam, Linda Kipnes, Leo Bernard, Rob Cooper, Kathleen Meehan, Margaret Femia, Lisza Elliot
3. Public Input: Cheryl Fried
4. Motion made to approval of the previous meeting minutes by Leo Bernard. Seconded by Margaret
5. Reports:
  - Recycle tonnage report read. Not up to 30 tons. Down for the month of October
  - Expenditure will be submitted later this evening.
  - Budget request posted. Same as last year.
  - Report of clean up days (28NOV2015, 27DEC2015 from 8a.m. to 12p.m.) at the landfill.
  - Yard Waste Disposal – last day is this Saturday
  - Household Hazardous waste had a record year. Highest participation since 2006.
  - NRPC has applied for a grant to develop a renewable energy guidebook. Will be looking for partner communities. Linda told them we would like to know so that we can consider being one of those communities.
  - HLN Column: Deb got “Cuirious about solar” in the calendar for HLN 2 weeks in a row. Dropped off flyer created by Margaret to Hannaford, etc, etc. Gave to Donna Graham to get posted in each of the schools and our town buildings. Urge for SC members to promote. Have email distribution of people who attended Button-up NH and will distributed to them without disclosing their email. The evening will not be only for residents. The idea is to go to presentation without enduring high pressure sales. Want to give people an overall understanding. What it is and how it can be purchased. Presentation will last about 45 minutes to an hour. There will be a general Q&A time. [Hudsonsustainability@gmail.com](mailto:Hudsonsustainability@gmail.com) is where people can go to register although registration is not required.
  - No Energy Items. The town is using LED lights for the Town Common decoration for the holiday season
6. Old Business:

- Earth Day. Linda said selectmen represented a strong interest in the committee reviving the art contest. Margaret contacted Frank twice without a response. Margaret wants to know the details in how to contact the schools, how to organize, how to setup so that she can send out things with clear rules. Lisza: we can talk about kind of contest. In the past we did banners, posters, had classes make things out of recycled materials. All elementary schools. Contacts would be school principals. Lisza and Margaret can collaborate in January to update communication materials. Leo said banners will be going back up. Possibly a display at the Library. Linda: maybe we could display in the Library Community Room. Linda thinks we may need to go through the Superintendent's office to get something put up in schools. We want contest to deal with recycling and/or energy and we want it to end on Earth day (April 22, 2016).
- Deb was thinking of grouping grades 1-3, 4-6. Teachers may know standard size that should be bought. If we commit to only one winner, then it has less of an affect. Winning posters could be laminated and then used on voting days, etcetera.
- Linda: we can discuss this further, even through email.
- May cancel December meeting and if we do, we'll have to maintain momentum through email.
- Solar Warrant Article: Selectmen Public Hearing on Nov 24 and Dec 8.
  - a. Selectmen ask that SC members attend
  - b. Lisza said the agenda for tomorrow night has the SWA at the end of the old business section.
  - c. We won't have to speak.
  - d. Jim Michoux, the assessor, might be there to explain things.
  - e. Margaret: in this past week's Hudson Litchfield News
    - i. Deb said article based on old information. The concept of the town adopting the RSA as set by the state of NH already has been approved. For residents watching this evening, to help assure that the market value of the solar installation doesn't get taxed, attend and support the warrant article.
  - f. The idea of the warrant article is that, if you put solar on your house, the value will not be negated by taxation.
  - g. This is not a rebate or something that will be subtracted from taxes. It simply will not be assessed – just like a high efficiency furnace.
  - h. If viewers have comments or questions, attend or watch BOS meeting tomorrow or on December 8<sup>th</sup>.
  - i. SC supports it
- Budget Committee meeting for SC is December 1<sup>st</sup>. Linda will be there and she mildly encouraged SC members to attend.
- Solar Information Night will be on December 9<sup>th</sup> at Rogers Library.
  - a. Reviewed proposed HLN Letter to the Editor
    - i. Add Library address
    - ii. Add that registration is encouraged and not required
  - b. Deb's husband will make 3 slides for use on HCTV. Deb will communicate directly to Jim. Leo said Jim just had surgery so make sure to use the committee email and not Jim's personal email.
  - c. Cheryl asked if anyone from the town will attend the presentation to speak to requirements on what needs to be done to have solar installed. Deb will ask the BOS tomorrow night.
  - d. Deb: it would be productive for one of building inspectors to be present to explain to attendees the basic requirements on pulling permits.

- e. Linda said it would be useful to hold follow-up presentation to cover things such as net metering, and permitting, and electric company relationship. Second session would have review of first session and then dive into the details. Whether or not we do this depends on the response we get from the first meeting. If response is good, we'll have time to plan a January meeting.
- f. Spoke about who would help with refreshments.
- g. We have the room from 6-9
- h. Leo: we should list our 12 school street address.
- i. Linda doesn't mind having her name and number published.
- j. Linda wants us to sponsor an add in the HLN and, possibly, the Nashua Telegraph. Margaret added that we should look at rates first before committing.
  - i. Margaret has contact names at both publications
  - ii. Margaret will find out rates and deadlines

7. New Business:

- None

8. Final Comments:

- Lisza: A pleasure to be on the committee to encourage recycling
- Margaret: Global climate summit in Paris is coming up. Green is good business.
- Rob: echoed Lisza. We still do recycling and we'd like to see the next tonnage report go up.
- Leo: Recycle Christmas boxes. Use those recycling bins. Welcome to Kathleen and Cheryl
- Linda: Welcome to Kathy as a new member. Great to see committee expanding. Recycle. Compost. These things save money for the town. Recycling doesn't cost money. Trash does.
- Deb: Echo all the thoughts on Christmas and recycling. There is a cleanup day 2 days after Christmas and you don't need a pass. Don't burn wrapping paper in the fireplace.
- Kathy: I'm a sponge today. I'll have more to say next time.

9. Next proposed meeting is Monday December 28<sup>th</sup>. Let's bring goodies and hot chocolate. We need 4 for a quorum.

10. Adjourned at 8:08pm