

Town of Southampton

Sustainability Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, September 3, 2019 Southampton Town Hall

Members present: D. von Lehsten (DVL), G. Berk (GB), J. Glorioso (JG), G. Anthony (GA), T. Brolin (TB), N. Palumbo (NP), J. Barrows (JB), J. Ewing (JE), S. Hunnewell (SH), J. Burmeister (JB1), H. Roussel (HR)

Non-members present: Councilman J. Bouvier (CJB), C. Fetten (CF), M. Leiberman (ML), M. Haubner (MH), L. Vosilla (LV), M. Zegarelli (MZ)

Meeting was called to order at 4:03PM. Meeting minutes from were accepted.

Progression and Discussion of 400+ Components

General Discussion Overview, as expanded below: DVL- TB- **Presentation of Helium-filled Balloons** same format as the TBR, proposed law which we amended based on our last meeting. Ban the sale, distribution and release of lighter than air (helium) balloons. This is based on other laws that currently exist in Provincetown MA, Nantucket MA, New Shoreham RI, State of Massachusetts has a bill pending for a state wide ban, and it's stuck in committee. GB how large is New Shoreham RI? TB I can find out. Using the quote for the Plastic bag law: protect the environment more specifically from balloons which have a single use. Helium leaks out of balloons quickly. In doing some quick calculating approximately 85,000 are discarded, and even though the party store says their latex balloons are bio-degradable, I believe after many, many years they are still identifiable. Mylar balloons do not degrade and conduct electricity which sparks fires. TB Balloons kill sea mammals and birds they interfere with their digestive systems and the string gets wrapped around their necks. Balloons go 29,000 feet, most never get that close as the helium leaks out. Latex is a mixture and not truly bio-degradable. In addition helium is a valuable resource, 85,000 balloons use approximately 430,000 cubic feet of helium that could be used for MRI's, Scanners and as a Cooling Medium for large research devices. Surveyed a total of 18 businesses 10 responded: four supported the ban, six objected citing they didn't want to lose business. GB it's really great, can you have the legislative intent tied into the 400+ plan? Try and marry it to the 400+ plan. TB I'll look at it. Next steps if the committee approves. John can you ask the Town Attorneys for a draft, then we'll get on the work session calendar. CJB Did you look at sub-vendors? Those that sell helium in small tanks for home use? TB No, not banning the sale of helium. JG mention it to the attorney: lighter than air. NP it's already illegal, I think. CJB under Public Safety code, let me look into it. DVL Vote to bring forward: all in favor, none opposed. **Leaf Blower Ban (Gas Powered)** SH discussed considered banning gas powered leaf blowers seasonally, year round, propose following the village ban but for the town, from May 20th thru Sept. 20th. From Sept. 21 thru May 19th, 8am – 6pm M-F and Sat. 9-5 gas-powered leaf blowers would be allowed, no Sun., federal or state holidays unless a state of emergency is declared by the Town Supervisor. No walk behinds or two or more blowers on land less than half an acre. These are harmful to the public and operator. One leaf blower is equated to 17 cars carbon monoxide, dioxide, etc., not to mention the noise level. JB was a decibel study done? SH no we talked to about five landscapers, they are not opposed but feel as though the electrical equipment is not up to snuff which is why we backed off to the total year ban. CJB it's a big issue in our carbon natural goal. Gauge total consumption gas/time what emissions is. JB per unit? CJB what does that mean. SH statics indicate oil/gas spilled while filling leaf blowers is about four oz. of gas which when looked as a whole is more than what was spilled in the Exxon Valdez incident. There is a list of 23 cities that have full to partial bans. CJB find some municipalities specifically. Education plan is to do mailing to the town summarizing the restriction. DVL where do we stand, more work? NP J. Banks from Quiet Communities is a great resource. DVL Consult with Parks. CJB please keep Kristen Doulos in the loop. **Climate Action Plan** DVL 2.1 Building LEED principles. JB need to be holistic, performance based, look at the building envelope and be certified. DVL Amend Chapter 123 JB offer incentives, tax rebates. CBJ rebates and incentives are out there, people are leery or don't know how to get thru the

process. DVL **Reforestation and tree planting** is this something the committee should research? HR and JB1 will research and get back to the committee.

1. EDUCATION

- a. Town Employees
- b. Homeowners and Other Residents
- c. Business Owners
- d. Primary School Education
- e. Educational signage
- f. Food Production & Consumption
- g. Outreach

2. WATER

- a. Regional Clean Water Coalition
- b. Surface Water Quality
- c. Education
- d. Regulated Water Conservation
- e. Water Treatment and Reuse
- f. Landscape Management
- g. Drinking Water Quality
- h. Groundwater Protection
- i. Stormwater Management
- j. Wetlands Protection
- k. Floodplains
- l. Planning and Emergency Mgmt

3. ECONOMICS

- a. Sustainability Index
- b. Green Business Development
- c. Resource Sharing
- d. Affordable Housing
- e. Sustainable Economy

4. LAND USE

- a. Climate Action Plan
- b. Land Use
- c. Open Space Preservation
- d. New Open space
- e. Biomass Preservation
- f. Environmental Restoration
- g. Neighborhood Pattern and Design
- h. Heat Island Effect

5. TRANSPORTATION & AIR QUALITY

- a. Idling Reduction
- b. Bicycle *CF Scheduled to deploy 9/12/19, no press release. Resolution for Car Free day is being considered. NP there's a week long symposium at SCCC Brentwood campus around this.*
- c. Complete Streets
- d. Demand – Reduce VMT
- e. Public Transportation
- f. Parking

- g. Reduced Emissions Alt Fuel
- h. Neighborhood Pattern and Design
- i. Resilient Infrastructure

6. ENERGY / CARBON

- a. Long Term Energy Planning
- b. Energy and Carbon
- c. Clean Energy Renewable
- d. Energy and Carbon Reduction
- e. Education –

7. GREEN BUILDING

- a. Sustainable New Construction
- b. Green Building Education.
- c. Water Efficiency in Buildings
- d. Heat Island Effect - Roofs

8. WASTE

- a. Municipal Facility Recycling
- b. Comprehensive E Waste Recycling
- c. Plastic Recycling
- d. Organic Waste
- e. Waste Education
- f. School Recycling/Trex
- g. Materials Exchange
- h. Paper
- i. Building waste
- j. Hazardous Waste
- k. Product Stewardship
- l. Long Term Waste Planning

9. QUALITY OF LIFE

- a. Promotion of Physical Activity
- b. Local Food
- c. Air Quality
- d. Facade Improvement
- e. Education
- f. Emergency Preparedness

10. STEWARDSHIP

- a. Trail Preservation -
- b. Historic Places
- c. Fisheries
- d. Nutrients in Environment
- e. Education Vacant Land
- f. Forest and Vegetation

**** Meeting was adjourned at 5:55PM. Please be advised that our next meeting will be Tuesday, September 17, 2019 at 4:00PM in the lower level conference room of Southampton Town Hall.**

Additional 2019 Meeting Dates:

Sept. 17th, Oct. 1st & 15th, Nov. 19th, Dec. 3rd & 17th