



# Sustainable Bethel Commission

Clifford J. Hurgin Municipal Center, 1 School Street  
Bethel, Connecticut 06801 Telephone: (203) 794-8501

## NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, July 7, 2022 at 7:00 pm - Hybrid Meeting  
Clifford J. Hurgin Municipal Center, 1 School St., Bethel, CT  
Video/ Teleconference video link: <https://zoom.us/j/7360902790>  
One tap mobile: 1.646.558.8656, 7360902790# US (New York)  
Materials can be viewed at: <https://www.bethel-ct.gov/Zoom-Documents>

### AGENDA

1. Pledge of Allegiance/ Call Meeting to Order
2. Welcome Mary Churchill
3. Public Comments
4. Correspondence
5. Consideration of approval June 2, 2022 Minutes
6. Chairman Comments
7. Commission Announcement
8. Commission Discussion
  - a) Shop and Stroll event – Saturday, July 16<sup>th</sup> – 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. (downtown)
  - b) Energy Expo – Saturday, July 30<sup>th</sup> – 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. (town green)
  - c) Survey
  - d) Commission event(s) liaison, participation planning and day of
  - e) Special Sustainable Bethel Meeting
9. Sustainable Bethel Certification

**Next Regular Sustainable Bethel Commission – Thursday, August 4, 2022 – 7:00 p.m.**

TOWN CLERK  
BETHEL, CT.

2022 JUL - 6 A 10: 22

RECEIVED



**Sustainable Bethel Commission**  
Clifford J. Hurgin Municipal Center, 1 School Street  
Bethel, Connecticut 06801 Telephone: (203) 794-8501

RECEIVED  
TOWN CLERK  
BETHEL, CT.  
2022 JUN -6 P 2:11

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING**

Thursday, June 2, 2022 at 7:00 pm - Hybrid Meeting  
Clifford J. Hurgin Municipal Center, 1 School St., Bethel, CT  
Video/ Teleconference video link: <https://zoom.us/j/7360902790>  
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**Present:** Chair Kathryn Hebert, Tori Cornish, Diana Brady, Katie Troy, Peter Schenkman, Stephen Ippolito and Energy Consultant William Cratty. **Absent:** Peter Schwartz, Ryan Arconti, Shaun Chang and Sunnetha Malkani

Kathryn Hebert called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm

**Public Comments:** None

**Correspondence:** None

**Consideration of approval May 19, 2022 special meeting minutes:**

Stephen Ippolito made a motion, which was seconded by Tori Cornish to approve the minutes of May 19, 2022 with the correct spelling of Kathryn Hebert's name. Vote, all in favor, motion approved unanimously.

**Chairman Comments:**

Kathryn Hebert made opening comments and discussion ensued.

**Consideration of Ameresco, Inc. invoice in the amount \$15,895.00:**

Diana Brady made a motion, which was seconded by Tori Cornish to approve the payment of \$15,895.00 to Ameresco, Inc. Discussion ensued. Vote, all in favor, motion approved unanimously.

**Commission Discussion:**

Kathryn Hebert began discussion with the board to discuss their action item list.

**Commission Action Items:**

Each member of the board discussed their short term and long-term goals for the commission. Discussion ensued.

**Discussion of community events/ volunteering and schedule:**

Discussion ensued on interacting with the community through community events and social media. The board discussed participating in an event July 30, 2022 on the Municipal Lawn and providing a survey to gather information from the community.

Kathryn Hebert made a motion, which was seconded by Tori Cornish to adjourn the meeting at 8:24 p.m.

Please use link to view meeting: [https://youtu.be/\\_5KWhPCLF6Y](https://youtu.be/_5KWhPCLF6Y)

Respectfully submitted

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dionne Craig". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Dionne Craig  
Recording Secretary



**SUSTAINABLE BETHEL COMMISSION**  
Clifford J. Hurgin Municipal Center, 1 School Street  
Bethel, Connecticut 06801 Telephone: (203) 794-8501

July 2022

**PUBLIC SURVEY**

Recently the First Selectman appointed and the Board of Selectman confirmed the first ever **SUSTAINABLE BETHEL COMMISSION** (*website page [include link here]*) which is a part of the State of CT Sustainable CT (<https://sustainablect.org/>)

The Commission includes ten Bethel residents - Chairman Kathryn Hebert, Tori Cornish, Diana Brady, Stephen Ippolito, Katie Troy, Peter Schenkman, Peter Schwartz, Ryan Arconti, Shaun Chang, and Suneetha Malkani. The previous Energy Commission programming and policies have been folded under the Sustainable Bethel Commission.

The MISSION of the Sustainable Bethel Commission is to foster inclusive, resilient, and a vibrant community providing opportunities for all to thrive by implementing sustainable actions that build our local economy, support equity, and respect the finite capacity of the environment.

The Commission desires to engage the community and gather input through different methods such as digital platforms, social media and newsletters; outreach community events and surveys. Bethel's new Sustainable Commission primary goal is to be inclusive and equitable. To that end the Commission is seeking public engagement through participation and input.

Below is an opportunity for YOU to provide input through a simple survey. You can find the link here (*Sustainable Bethel Survey [include link here]*) or complete the survey below, send through US Mail to the First Selectman's Office, drop off at Town Hall or email [churchillm@bethel-ct.gov](mailto:churchillm@bethel-ct.gov).

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Please provide:

- Name
- Address
- Email
- Phone/Mobile
- Years in Bethel

- A. Would you be willing to volunteer for any events we hold in the future or be a part of the teams working on sustainable projects?  
*yes/ no/ no response/ prefer not to answer*
- B. Do you think the town does a good job of promoting and providing recycling opportunities?  
*yes/ no/ no response/ prefer not to answer*
- C. Are you satisfied with the public transportation and other transportation options offered in town?  
*yes/ no/ no response/ prefer not to answer*
- D. Are you satisfied with the amount of open land space/ public parks available for people in the town?
- E. *yes/ no/ no response/ prefer not to answer*
- F. Do you think local businesses are supported well enough by the town?

*yes/ no/ no response/ prefer not to answer*

G. Do you think affordable housing in the town is a concern?  
*yes/ no/ no response/ prefer not to answer*

H. Are you aware of the Town's cultural and historic assets:  
*yes/ no/ no response/ prefer not to answer*

Sustainability includes many types of projects/programs and can mean different things to different people. The Commission is seeking community participation in different types of sustainable initiatives and actions.

I. What are the top **FIVE action items important to YOU** in order of priority from the list below (select by number)

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- 1. **SUPPORT LOCAL BUSINESS** - Provide inclusive and accessible resources to and support local businesses and your Main Street and retail areas.
- 2. **REDUCE ENERGY CONSUMPTION** by making clean energy improvements such as energy-efficient boilers, upgraded insulation, new windows, or solar installations, with affordable, long-term financing from Commercial Property Assessment Clean Energy (C-PACE), a program of Connecticut Green Bank.
- 3. **REDUCE WATER USAGE** - Educate and empower all businesses and residents
- 4. **LOW IMPACT DEVELOPMENT** - promote such as rain gardens, bioretention gardens, bioswales, pervious pavement, green roofs, and rain harvesting.
- 5. **TOURISM, CULTURAL AND HISTORIC ASSETS** - Highlight and implement projects to promote your community's tourism and cultural assets, including places, institutions, programs, historical resources, and people.
- 6. **SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORTATION/MOBILITY** - Educate on, plan for, and implement projects to enhance use of safe, accessible and affordable sustainable mobility **options** such as biking, walking, public transit.
- 7. **REDUCE CARBON EMISSIONS** - Develop reduced carbon emission programming striving for zero emission goals including transitioning to electric fleets and providing ev chargers to encourage electric vehicle options.
- 8. **SOLID WASTE** – increase recycling of non-mandated materials and organics composting.
- 9. **PROMOTE HEALTH AND WELLNESS** through community growing spaces and horticultural opportunities in your municipality such as open space, community gardens and pollinator paths.
- 10. **AFFORDABLE HOUSING** - Increase the availability and sustainability in the town.

**THANK YOU FOR TAKING THE SURVEY.**

**WE LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR PARTICIPATION WITH THE SUSTAINABLE BETHEL COMMISSION**

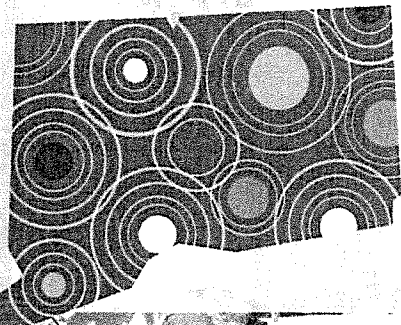
For More Information:

churchillm@bethel-ct.gov

203-794-8501

# Sustainable CT

Local Actions. Statewide Impact.®



Take action.

**Make an impact.**

Celebrate success.



**Sustainable CT is a free, voluntary certification program that inspires, supports, and celebrates thriving and resilient Connecticut communities.**

**Why Participate?**

- » Build a more inclusive, efficient, and vibrant community through our menu of sustainability actions
- » Access free technical assistance and support
- » Access flexible funding through our Community Match Fund
- » Be recognized for your sustainability



**Bronze Certification**

Complete **1 Equity Toolkit** in category 1. Implement at least **1 action** of your choice in categories 1-12. Successfully complete actions totaling **200 or more points**.

Action	Points
<b>1. INCLUSIVE AND EQUITABLE COMMUNITIES</b>	
Optimize for Equity- Required	10-50
Participate in Equity Training	10
Develop and Adopt a Statement on Equity	15
<b>2. THRIVING LOCAL ECONOMIES</b>	
Support Redevelopment of Brownfield Sites	5-90
Implement Sustainable Purchasing	5-45
Inventory and Promote Local Products and Services	5-30
Provide Resources and Supports to Local Businesses	5-20
Promote Sustainable Workforce Development	5-25
Participate in and Promote the C-PACE Program	5-25

**3. WELL STEWARDED LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

Provide Watershed Education	5-25
Create a Watershed Management Plan	10-30
Engage in Watershed Protection and Restoration	15-45
Develop an Open Space Plan	5-55
Create a Natural Resource and Wildlife Inventory	10-20
Manage for Drought and Municipal Water Use	5-15
Provide Education on Responsible Water Usage	5
Implement Low Impact Development	5-105
Manage Woodlands and Urban Forests	5-15
Facilitate Invasive Species Education and Management	5-20
Implement Green Grounds and Maintenance Programs	5-25
Enhance Pollinator Pathways	5-40
Promote Dark Skies	5-35

**4. VIBRANT AND CREATIVE CULTURAL ECOSYSTEMS**

Map Tourism and Cultural Assets	5-15
Support Arts and Creative Culture	10-25
Develop a Creative Placemaking Plan	10-15
Provide an Arts and Culture Program for Youth	20-25

**5. DYNAMIC AND RESILIENT PLANNING**

Integrate Sustainability into Plan of Conservation and Development	5-60
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**Silver Certification**

Complete **3 Equity Toolkits** Implement at least **1 action** Successfully complete actor

Action	Points
Support Zero Emission Vehicle Deployment	
Promote Public Transit and Other Mobility	
Manage Municipal Fleets	
<b>7. RENEWABLE AND EFFICIENT ENERGY</b>	
Benchmark and Track Energy Use	
Reduce Energy Use Across All Municipalities	
Achieve High Energy Performance for Buildings	
Increase Use of Renewable Energy in Municipalities	
Develop a Municipal Energy Plan	
Install Efficient Exterior Lighting	
Implement a Community Energy Campaign	
Benchmark Energy and Water Use for Buildings	

**8. INCLUSIVE ENGAGEMENT, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, AND EQUITY**

Hold a Sustainability Event	
Provide Effective Community Communication	
Train Municipal Representatives	
Support Community Match Fund Projects	
Collaborate With Other Municipalities	

**9. STRATEGIES MATERIALS MANAGEMENT**

Report Materials Management Data and Metrics	
Implement Unit-Based Pricing	
Recycle Additional Materials and Components	
Develop a Food Waste Prevention/Reduction Program	

**10. OPTIMAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS**

Encourage Healthy and Sustainable Food Choices	
Conduct Health Impact Assessments	
Improve Air Quality in Public Spaces	
Develop and Promote Community Green Spaces	

**11. HEALTHY, EFFICIENT, AND DIVERSE HOUSING**

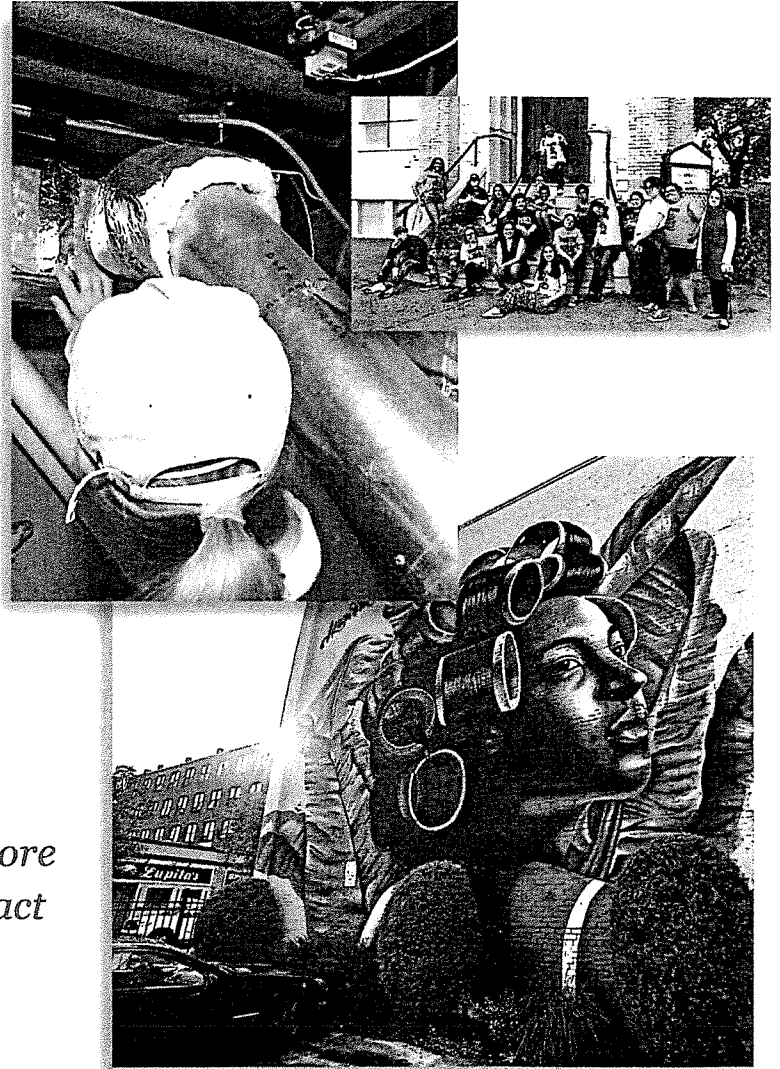
Design and Implement an Affordable Housing Program	
Grow Sustainable and Affordable Housing	

# THE COMMUNITY MATCH FUND

Sustainable CT's innovative **Community Match Fund** provides fast, flexible funding and support to implement projects that align with our menu of sustainability actions. Unlike traditional funding programs, the Community Match Fund has no tedious grant application, no deadlines, no lengthy review period, and minimal reporting requirements. We invite great ideas that provide public benefits to your community. And we support projects led by individual residents, nonprofits, community groups, municipalities, schools, libraries -- anyone in a Sustainable CT registered town.

*Have an idea to make your community more sustainable, equitable, and vibrant? Contact us at [funding@sustainablect.org](mailto:funding@sustainablect.org).*

Whether you're dreaming of more green spaces, solar for public spaces, greenways for biking and walking, murals and other public art, green jobs programs, community composting programs, or community gardens, the Sustainable CT Community Match Fund can help make your idea a reality. We'll work with you to develop and run a crowdfunding campaign and **we'll match every donation** you receive dollar-for-dollar.



Sustainable CT's Community Match Fund is generously supported by



Tremain Foundation