



Sustainable Bethel Commission

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

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

Wednesday, October 16, 2024 at 7:00 pm - Hybrid Meeting
Clifford J. Hurgin Municipal Center, 1 School St., Bethel, CT 06801
Meeting Room A

Present: Chair Kathryn Hebert, Gabriela Hernandez, Suneetha Malkani, Katie Troy, and Dana Dessereaux attended in-person. Tia Murphy and Kelly Coladarci attended via Google Meet.

Absent: Peter Schenkman

Kathryn Hebert called the meeting to order at 7:06pm.

Public Comments: James Keene 114 Knollwood Drive
Rebecca Hussey 73 Linda Lane
Penny Kessler 22 Spring Hill Lane

Correspondence: None

Motion made by K. Hebert, and seconded by D. Dessereaux, to add to the agenda the consideration of approval of the regular meeting minutes from 9/18/2024. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

Presentation – Sustainable Bethel Walk Audit:

G. Hernandez shared the summary report of the Walk Audit that was done on May 18, 2024. The focus of the audit was on a Stony Hill section of the Town. The AARP Walk Audit Tool Kit was utilized by volunteers. Among the community concerns are: walkability, ADA compliance, dangerous intersections, public transit availability is limited, and the posted speed limit. Possible solutions were offered such as: wider sidewalks, raised crosswalks, and shelter from the elements while waiting for public transportation.

Consideration of approval of the regular meeting minutes from 9/18/2024:

Motion made by D. Dessereaux, and seconded by G. Hernandez, to approve the regular meeting minutes, as written from 9/18/2024. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

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Commissioner Reports:

Sustainable CT certification: K. Hebert stated the commission was awarded Bronze certification. There will be a ceremony in November to accept the certification.

Earth Day: K. Troy will be reaching out to see who would like to be involved.

EV Charging: K. Hebert stated QiOn, an International EV Charging Company, has their R&D and Assembly Line in Bethel, CT. Installing 5 EV chargers was discussed by the Board of Selectmen at their meeting on 10/15/2024 and voted to move forward with the plan to install the chargers at specific places.

Solar: S. Malkani stated there are no updates at this time.

West Conn Student Steward Project Collaboration:

G. Hernandez spoke of a possible collaboration with graduate students who are working on projects, an example would be the value of open space.

Senior Homelessness:

K. Coladarci spoke about a recent meeting that was held with various Department Heads of the Town to brainstorm issues and action initiatives. They are at the information gathering stage.

Bethel Arts:

K. Hebert said the unveiling of the Sculpture Exhibits will be on Earth Day, April 26, 2025.

Newsletter:

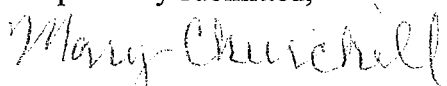
K. Hebert stated she would like to do a newsletter and a public presentation to let the public know what the Commission is doing and working on.

Other Business: None

Next Meeting: Wednesday, November 20, 2024 at 7:00pm in Meeting Room A

Motion made by G. Hernandez, and seconded by D. Dessereaux, to adjourn the meeting at 8:30pm. Vote, all in favor. Motion carries.

Respectfully submitted,



Mary Churchill

Recording Secretary