

**Environment & Energy Committee Meeting**  
**Thursday, August 15, 2019, 6:00pm**

**Attendees:**

x	Jim Pyle – Community Member	x	Jeff LaFleur – Solid Waste Manager, DPW
xx	Arden Cala- Business Member	x	Deb Chisholm- Waterways Manager
x	Gary Lambert- Community Member	x	Justin Kates- Director of Emergency Management
x	Sylvie Stewart – Community Member		Cecilia Ulibarri- Mayor’s liaison
x	Doria Brown- Worthen Industries Sustainability Coordinator, Chairwoman		Sarah Marchant- Director of Community Development
x	Bob Hayden, Standard Power		Shoshanna Kelly- Alderwoman-at-Large
	Brendan McMahon – Student Member		Jan Schmidt- Alderman
x	Colin McMahon – Student Member		

X – in attendance

XX – attendance by phone

Members of the public in attendance: none

Doria called the meeting to order at 6:00pm

**Items Discussed:**

Since the last meeting in June, Colin and Brendan were sworn in as student members, and Jeff LaFleur will replace Kerry Converse as the DPW Director’s designee.

1. Adoption of 6/20/19 meeting minutes

**Justin moved to accept the minutes as submitted. Sylvie seconded. All in favor.**

2. Justin Monroe –Grow Nashua (<https://www.grownashua.org/>)

Justin Monroe, the Director of Grow Nashua gave a presentation providing details on the mission of Nashua Grows and the composting services they provide. They currently have about 70 houses that they provide composting services to. Each home has a bucket lined with a compostable bag and the buckets are picked up weekly by Grow Nashua. The average pickup is ~13 pounds/week. Over 40,000 pounds of food scraps have been diverted from the trash. Grow Nashua partners with Agri-Cycle who brings the food scraps to a compost farm in Massachusetts.

3. Subcommittee Updates

a. Composting- Shoshanna and Gary

Jeff provided an update on a meeting regarding recycling that took place today. The City does not currently have the capacity to provide curbside composting, nor the ability to maintain/operate a composting facility at the landfill. However, Jeff said there is the desire for DPW to support Grow Nashua as a third party service to the community. The DPW Director and BPW will evaluate whether a DPW truck could be provided to assist Grow Nashua in expanding their composting services.

Jeff indicated that the DPW will take the lead on municipal composting. Doria offered that the committee could support those efforts through social media, legislation, etc.

#### b. Electric Vehicles

Jim, Bob, Colin and Brendan

The City recently installed 2 new electric vehicle chargers in the Elm Street Garage. The original charger there will be moved to a yet-to-be-determined location. The Nashua electric vehicle expo will take place on Saturday September 21<sup>st</sup> at 1pm at the Nashua Public Library. Colin noticed that Brianna Brand at Clean Energy NH is organizing a list of chargers and the Nashua chargers aren't on the list. Colin will follow up with her. Colin and Brendan continue to move their Electrify Nashua project forward with contacting businesses located in areas thought to have easy access for those looking to charge their vehicles.

#### c. Paper Reduction

Deb and Justin

No update.

#### d. Single-use Plastic Reduction

Sylvie and Doria

Doria provided an update on the research she has done on coffee shops allowing customers to bring their own cups. Nearly all shops Doria contacted allow you to bring your own cup. Doria will provide the list to the committee next month. She would also like to highlight these businesses for their efforts to reduce single use plastics.

#### e. Emissions and renewables

Arden

See #5 below

#### 4. Municipal Solar project

Deb gave an update on the municipal solar project she has been working on with ReVision Energy. The project includes putting rooftop solar on two municipally owned buildings, the Lake Street Garage and the Transit Garage on Riverside Street as well as the Conway Ice Arena. The City is currently reviewing the Power Purchase Agreement. ReVision Energy gave a great presentation to the Board of Aldermen to explain how a PPA works. Still shooting for installation this year. Justin asked about storage batteries. Bob indicated that the pricing on storage batteries has come down recently, but not enough yet to be a good investment.

#### 5. Solarize + campaign organization

Doria volunteered to take the reins on the Solarize+ campaign for next next year. Bob, Arden and Deb volunteered to help.

Doria made a motion to create a Solarize+ Campaign subcommittee. Bob seconded the motion and the motion passed.

#### 6. EE Committee website update

The existing EE Committee page on the City's website has only the required information similar to what all other City committees/boards have. Can we add more to ours and make it a resource for people? Could we add pictures and links?

#### 7. Other Business

Energy Committee Collective – Doria wants to connect with other similar committees to provide assistance to each other and prevent groups from recreating the wheel. It's difficult to know what other

committees are doing. Perhaps have quarterly meetings? Nice to have Nashua take the lead on this. Bob is also on Peterborough’s Energy Committee and his co-worker is on Concord’s committee. Hollis, Keene, Hanover and Lebanon were also mentioned as communities with committees. Deb will help Doria compile a list of committees.

Sylvie asked about used bikes and where they could be donated. The Gate City Bike Coop will repair bikes and donate them to those who need one. <https://gatecitybikecoop.org/>

8. Review of Next Steps

<i>No.</i>	<i>Next Step/Question</i>	<i>Who</i>	<i>By When</i>	<i>Comments</i>
	trail dates at mines falls. Collaborate for an event		Sept 22 Oct 20 Nov 5	Post/ advertise
	Write paper reduction campaign	Deb		Get suggestions from Dan
	Populate portfolio manager and enter greenhouse gas		monthly	Energy manager position will take this over if position is filled.
	Website development	Deb		
	Social media post for new charging station install	Deb		
	Organize a summit of EE committees			
	Develop a timeline for Solarize+ campaign			

7. Upcoming Events

- a. August 24 - Mine Falls Park Cleanup – 8:45 am. Lincoln Park entrance
- b. August 24 – Canal Cleanup – 8:45am. 175 Pine St. Extension
- c. September 21 – Nashua Electric Vehicle Expo - Nashua Public Library – 1pm-4pm
- d. September 21 – Mine Falls Park Cleanup – 8:45 am. Lincoln Park entrance
- e. September 21 – Canal Cleanup – 10:00am. 175 Pine St. Extension
- f. Sept 14 – 22 – National Drive Electric Week (other NH events)

**Next Meeting Date and time:** September 19, 2019 6pm-8pm

**Gary moved to adjourn at 7:30 pm. Bob seconded. All in favor.**

Submitted by Deb Chisholm