

Sustainability & Natural Resources Management Board

Minutes: 10.10.2024

Attending:

Community Forest Working Group:	Dave Griswold
Conservation Working Group:	Jane Costlow - Excused
Natural Products & Agriculture Working Group:	Chris Carson
Sustainability Working Group:	Ralph Harder
Mayor's Representative:	Jeff Harmon
City Council Representative:	Tim Cowan
Planning Board Representative:	Stacey LeBlanc - Absent
Staff:	Denis D'Auteuil
Guests:	None

Recorder: Chris Carson

Call to Order: 6:00pm

1. **Minutes** for 7.18.2024 Approved
2. **Public Participation:** None
3. **Appointment of Officers:**
 - a. **Dave Griswold** Chair
 - b. **Chris Carson** Secretary
4. **Discussion of SNRB Ordinance & Board Effectiveness**
 - a. Concern that SNRB does not meet frequently enough
 - b. Concern that Working Groups are taking issues directly to city staff and circumventing SNRB
 - c. Concern that SNRB does not act in the role of proscribing priorities to Working Groups
 - d. Concern that SNRB is duplicative of the functions of Working Groups

- e. Discussion of the origin of the SNRB and the role of Working Groups and Committees in other city contexts
 - f. Discussion of the positive aspects of the SNRB in coordinating the four (4) Working Groups on three (3) major initiatives:
 - i. Analysis of the AGRP and development of an alternative to the income requirement
 - ii. Analysis of Auburn's solid waste situation, and development of recommendations
 - iii. Development of factors to assist staff determine "bona fide" agriculture, natural resources and outdoor recreation activities in the AGRP
 - g. The group resolved to continue this discussion
- 5. City of Auburn Sustainability Initiatives Report**
- a. No Report
- 6. Discussion of a Sustainability Scorecard & Sustainability Position**
- a. General discussion of the value in adding a full time Sustainability Manager to the city staff and how this position could potentially interact with SNRB
 - b. General discussion of the inherent value of a Sustainability Scorecard both as a method of internal evaluation and as a tool for marketing the city's sustainability efforts
- 7. Reports from Working Groups:**
- a. **Sustainability:** Ralph Harder
 - i. Solid Waste Report Completed
 - ii. Draft Solid Waste RFP Completed
 - iii. Solid Waste Contract won't take effect until July 1
 - b. **Conservation:** Dave Griswold
 - i. Continue to support staff in relicensing Lewiston dam
 - ii. Littlefield Dam removal progress discussion
 - iii. Established pollinator garden @ Petengill Park
 - c. **Forestry:** Dave Griswold
 - i. Significant grant from Project Canopy for work on Nursery
 - ii. Notable Trees of Lewiston/Auburn feature article to appear in Sun Journal
 - iii. The Emerald Ash Borer has arrived in Auburn
 - d. **Agriculture:** Chris Carson
 - i. Fall Farm & Forest Tour - October 19, 2024. Details on the city website.
- 8. Next Meeting:** January 9, 2025

Adjourn: 7:45PM