



## **TOWN OF MOUNT DESERT SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE SUMMARY**

**Thursday, January 19, 2023**

**Town Meeting Room and electronic**

**Northeast Harbor**

Members Present:

Phil Lichtenstein, Chair

Dennis Shubert

Troy Julian

John McCauley

Rosemary Matchak

Sydney R R

Meg Ashur

1. The summary for the meeting of December 22, 2022, was reviewed and accepted
2. The chair announced that we were awarded with the second Community Resilience Grant that allowed us to support our greenhouse gas accountability study.
3. Our new public works director, Brian Henkel, has been invited to our February 16<sup>th</sup> meeting.
4. The chair and Dennis Shubert will meet with Brian to discuss the rationale for the proposed EV charger policy prior to its presentation to the BOS.
5. The committee discussed again EV charger locations to be supported by State of Maine (SOM) grants. The Museum in NEH was again discussed. Certainly, it is a central location but the Museum does not have allocated parking spaces and charging locations are nearby.
6. The Chair spoke with the Harbor Committee which supports EV charger location in Seal Harbor located in the permitted lot above the SH wastewater treatment facility. Apparently, there exists the opportunity to grade and pave the lot prior to EV charger installation. Utility supply is available.
7. Apparently, previously, a very successful an Electric Vehicle educational session had been held at the Seal Cove Auto Museum. The group supports A Climate to Thrive (ACTT) efforts via Naomi Albert, to support a similar effort again.
8. No further information was available concerning the studies of the inner harbor at Otter Creek
9. The committee discussed the interim step of discount off current energy charges contract for Town electricity supply. Understanding that this

- approach was temporary the group supported. Financial analysis supports the Town developing its own solar farm large enough to offset its entire electric energy use.
10. The committee discussed the challenge of providing to the town government the support of a sustainability coordinator. The group agreed that taxpayers needed to understand the value equation prior to such approval. We will continue to follow Bar Harbor's experience,
  11. The group was delighted to learn that the College of Atlantic's students residing in NEH had pledged to provide 60 hours of community service per student per academic year. The substantial resource needs to be utilized wisely. The chair left consideration of this opportunity to the members.

The next Sustainability Committee meeting is February 16, 2023, at 1630. The group agreed to change the regular meeting date after February 16<sup>th</sup> to accommodate ACCT for a date yet to be determined.