



City of Greenfield, Massachusetts  
Sustainable Greenfield Implementation Committee (SGIC)  
October 26, 2023 Meeting Minutes

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**Committee Members Present:**

Hannah Rechtschaffen, Chair  
George Touloumtzis, Co Chair, Planning board rep  
Mary Chicoine, public member  
Nancy Hazard, public member  
Phil Elmer, City Council representative  
Eric Twarog, Director of Planning and Development  
Jonah Keane, public member  
Greta Shwachman, Public Schools Food Service Director

**Committee Members Absent:**

Marlo Warner, Director of Public Works (regrets)

**Others present:**

Amy Cahillane, Community & Economic Director  
Ken Byrne, Conway School Faculty

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--- George called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm ---

- 1. Introductions:** A round of introductions was offered by SGIC members
- 2. Approval of September Meeting Minutes:** Phil moved to approve and Eric seconded. Discussion: George offered edits. With edits included, all approved except Mary, who abstained.
- 3. Conway School Student Project update (Eric):** \$15k for the project will come from the City's unrestricted funds. Greenfield Savings Bank will provide a grant to cover the remaining cost of the project. The Mayor approved the update of the Land Use chapter, as well as the Natural and Cultural Resources chapter. Core SGIC group identified: Eric, Mary, Jonah and Nancy.

Eric indicated the City of Greenfield has accepted the contract agreement with the Conway School.

Ken Byrne, Conway School, indicated the 3-student team will require more detailed info on what has been completed in the 2014 Master Plan. Since this is a 12-week project, there is a very truncated time frame and an expectation that the core group can provide feedback quickly on final documents – approximately 3-day turn-around.

Ken Shared Milestones for Clients (see attachment)

The SGIC core team will coordinate the outreach and publicity for the students' public engagement events.

George provided Ken a brief background on the original Sustainable Greenfield Master Plan inception. Nancy stated that the Conway School update will provide the impetus for SGIC to do more outreach and public engagement.

**Action: Eric will send the scope of work out to the SGIC members for an opportunity for input.**

- 4. Anti-idling Update (George):**
  - George reviewed his anti-idling summary (see attachment)
  - Used MA DEP Idling Reduction Toolkit as a reference
  - Police and BOH can enforce anti-idling law
  - Next step: Involve other stakeholders: School committee, Board of Health, children

- There could be student lead initiative (think Four Rivers Charter)
- Police probably will not wait around the five minutes to enforce
- Self enforcement/self awareness might be more effective
- Greening Greenfield (Carol Letson) lead an anti-idling effort several years ago – included windshield flyers and anti-idling signs. Schools may still have signage.
- We should include the human health angle as well as the climate crisis
- The city should have a more firm policy for city vehicles idling including police vehicles. Anti-idling is already in city contracts, but is not being enforced. Police could enforce city idling policy, but probably not idling schools.
- Are there studies of what settings in which idling is most prevalent? This is something we need to examine.
- We need to pay attention to idling at parks as well.
- **Action: George will approach the School Committee and Police**

**5. Greenfield Tree Committee Support Letter (Phil):**

- Phill read the proposed letter of support written by Tree Committee member, Margo Jones
- Mary clarified the letter of support is for a grant proposal to the MA DCR Urban Forestry Challenge Grant. There will be no funds or match required from the City.
- Phil moved to approve the letter and Eric seconded. SGIC approves the letter unanimously

**6. Rescheduling November Meeting (Hannah):**

- The next meeting will be Thursday, November 30<sup>th</sup>

**7. Announcements:**

- Greening Greenfield: October 30<sup>th</sup> at 6:30– Community conversation about proposed recycling changes (Nancy)
- MassDOT – Northern Tier Railroad – October 26 at 6 pm – Public meeting (Hannah)
- Municipal Net Zero Plan for City of Greenfield – we should invite someone to tell us about it (Nancy)

--- Phil moved to adjourn; Hannah seconded; George adjourned the meeting at 5:56 pm ---

---- **NEXT MEETING: Thursday, November 30, 2023 - 5 PM - 6:30 PM** ----