



## Manchester-By-The-Sea Meeting Minutes Posting

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**Board/Committee: Sustainability Committee**

**Day & Date: Wednesday, January 8, 2025**

**Time: 05:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)**

**Location: Zoom**

### **MINUTES**

Members present: Annie McBride – Co-chair & Sandy Rogers – Co-chair, Nadia Wetzler, Louisa Mackintosh, Jennifer Moulton and Max Messervy

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM.

New member Jennifer Moulton was welcomed and prospective new member, Max Messervy was in attendance.

The committee listened to a presentation from two high school freshmen who had just completed a research project on litter in Manchester and what they found regarding residents' views about it and solutions to it. Their recommendation is to have someone in Town arrange a cleanup day or two over the course of the year.

1. The minutes from the Dec 4 meeting were approved.
2. Sandy gave a recap of the response to the Sustainability Committee table at the Friends of the Library books sale during the Holiday Stroll. The table showcased sustainable wrapping, gift, and decorating ideas and reinforced string light recycling and use of compostable materials. The Friends of the Library were thrilled and would like the committee to participate in the future and would be open to discussing further ideas (wrapping service, etc.). Attendance during the overall stroll appeared to have been a little lower than in years past, but the mission of the Committee was well-received by those that came through the space during the event. We need to get an application in much earlier in 2025 (i.e., Aug/Sept) if we want to pay for our own stamping location, but the Friends of the Library appreciated us doing it for them thus not sure if needed.
3. The Committee's page on the Town website still needs updating. Annie and Sandy started a list of ideas. The rest of the Committee can add or comment.
4. The Sustainability Committee has been preparing and submitting a list of tips and hacks to each quarterly Community Newsletter and will also be putting together hacks to share via The Cricket.
5. Nadia has provided a list of contacts at the schools for the faculty involved with the Green Team so that the Committee can communicate and try to coordinate some activities. There was discussion about setting up a badge challenge for Scouts other than the one for sustainability, which is already an option.
6. This Committee will plan to meet with Parks and Recreation to discuss and hopefully schedule, Town/beach clean ups and discover what funding is available for related supplies such as gloves and trash bags.
7. A list has been started with ideas for ways to keep food related events from producing a lot of unsustainable trash. Choosing foods and drinks in reusable containers and using recyclable and compostable serving-ware are examples. Related to that, requiring restaurants to use sustainable

take-out containers would be a step in the right direction but it would need to be enforced and currently is not. Mandatory composting of food waste for restaurants and grocery stores would also be a big improvement.

8. The Committee is still trying to decide how best to provide a way for residents to dispose of hard to recycle items – possibly at Town Hall. It could be in coordination with Black Earth and maybe the Charm Program or other options.
9. Ideas to pursue: Would Manchester want to sponsor a Styrofoam recycling event like Beverly and Salem do? How about a Town-wide “yard sale” or swap for things like bicycles and sports equipment, etc.?
10. Max wondered if aggregating the data from the Town regarding actual percentages and quantities of composting, trash collected, water used, energy used by residents and businesses would help show how Manchester stacks up and provide a starting point for improvements.
11. It was agreed that the second Wednesday of every month at 5:30 P.M. would work for those present for monthly meetings with the possibility of skipping some during the summer. The next meeting is February 12 at 5:30 P.M. via Zoom.
12. The meeting adjourned at 7:00 PM.