

ERC Minutes for Dec 7, 2023

MEMBERS PRESENT: Lauren Jordan, Diane Lamson, Sarah Kaplinger, Doug Smith, Kyla Viger, Mike Brakey, Dustin Ward (SB Liasson) Sarah Rodriques

1. APPROVAL OF DEC MINUTES - Sarah motioned to accept minutes as written, seconded by Kyla, minutes were unanimously approved with no changes

2. UPDATES:

Parks and Rec Basketball season, winter programs

Town Waste/Recycling Dustin updated the committee regarding a pending 1 year contract with Corcoran Environmental Services (CES) to take New Gloucester recycling excluding tin and glass. This would decrease town transportation costs to MWAC. The select board is waiting for the contract to review and vote on. There are questions to be asked, including what CES does with the recycling materials. Several ERC committee members plan on attending the SB meeting and present any questions during the Committee updates/reports portion of the meeting

3. GARDENING CLASS IN JANUARY A tentative date of January 28, with time to be determined. Diane will bring details to the January meeting. Discussion regarding numbers of people, how to advertise, pre-registration, and materials needed. The purpose of the event is "Winter Seed Sowing of Native Plants" to promote more native pollinators in the community

4. COMMUNITY RESILIENCE PARTNERSHIP: Lauren and Doug presented the application for enrollment to the select board at a special workshop. The SB unanimously supported and signed the letter of intent. The state CRP informed Doug they have received the completed application which had not been processed as of tonight's ERC meeting. Doug will inform the committee when he gets any further information from the state.

Next Steps: a) using the 5 areas of interest that have been pinpointed, what is the project to pursue. And b) review what other communities are doing or have done.

4. ERC SOCIAL MEDIA/NGX ARTICLES: Kyla proposed that the ERC does not have the frequency of events and updates to warrant a social media presence and our best option is to connect with the NGX with regular articles. Ideas generated include best use of the transfer station, promotion of ERC events, sharing information/educating around ERC topics. Kyla will make a list of topics to bring to the January meeting

NEW BUSINESS

A. Doug mentioned a potential new member for the committee

B. Mike attended an AARP presentation on "The Fight for Fair Electric Rates" and shared some of what he picked up from that workshop.

Next meeting date January 4, 2023 at 5:30pm

Respectively submitted by Diane Lamson, Secretary ERC