

KESAC Kittery Energy and Sustainability Advisory Committee
July 11, 2018 6:30 p.m.

Members in attendance: Julia O'Connell, Lyn Rosoff, David Evans, Jerry Robock, James Penfold, Steve Bilski, Erin Kempster, Special guests from Traip Green Team and Sustainability Coord. Jen Thayer and from Mitchell Green Team and Traip Greenhouse gardening program Anne Masury.

James Penfold gave a 15 minute presentation to update us on electric vehicle recharging station grant opportunities from the VW settlement that is being administered by efficiency Maine. He spoke with the town manager Kendra Amaral today and will explore further interest to set up a recharging site at Kittery Community Center by contacting Krisit Mathieson the KCC Chairperson of the board.

Julia reported that the RFP for LED street light replacement is live on the town website and went out this week. Municipal solar PV for 4 town buildings is being researched. Kendra requested that the following buildings be evaluated; Town Hall, Police Department. Fire Department (off of the bypass), Kittery Community Center and the Sewage treatment plant. Also the Transfer station was added. Kristi M. is spearheading efforts to get a feasibility study including shade and financial analysis. Two businesses have started that process. We met with one who emphasized that before any solar panels could be mounted the structural integrity of the buildings roofs needed to be assessed.

The final segment of the meeting was dedicated to brainstorming with the Green Team reps to create a town-wide energy/sustainability program that would appeal across stakeholders and would be something the Town could support.

Here are ideas to be further developed.

- 1) LED's/recycling CFLs goal ; Bring awareness of the benefits of LED's and the town-wide LED street light conversion program by encouraging local residents to switch CFL to more energy efficient, less costly, less toxic LED bulbs. Plan proposed: Offer a month free disposal of CFL's at the transfer station . Normally residents are charged \$1/bulb. Such a deal to offer it for free! Fair Tide could possibly resell/distribute CFL's to their customers..... Have other collection sites besides the transfer station for that month. (ie Fabulous Find, Agway, Ace, Eldredges, Lion's Club, Southern Maine Fish and Game.) Special boxes would be provided.

Julia spoke with efficiency Maine and they have a list of vendors that still provide low cost LED's. See their website. This info could be provided to all residents.

2) Compost

The challenge is that 40-50% (?correct figure) of trash contains compostable items according to David and Jen. Custodians at the local public schools use 300 bags per day!!!

We need to create a convenient way to separate compost from trash and also insure that the compost is free of contaminants. A modified trash can with two compartments is being tried at a public school to make it convenient to dispose of compost and trash in the same bin.

We need to measure and document the success before moving forward with a broader program. Presently Mr. Fox collects from Mitchell and Shapleigh Schools. They are expensive.

3) Other ideas tossed around like a wild salad with no bowl to land in yet were:

Remediating the Shapleigh rain garden

Repair Cafe (encouraging the repair, rather than disposal, of broken appliances, etc). Expanding a hands on program for school children. Lions club has donated funds and has some mentors that have worked with children from Traip to repair small electrical appliances ie toaster oven , sewing machine. Project Feeder watch Mitchell librarian Anne Masury has installed a live webcam for children to learn

bird ID Traip makes birdhouses for Shapleighs program.

E waste campaign -- dispose of e-waste for free in Massachusettes ie laptops The transfer station uses Northcoast business for ewaste.

There was also interest by the schools in having a sustainability curriculum. Efficiency Maine has materials that may be adapted (Energy Sleuth).

Jerry mentioned that he would like to see more “anti idling “ signs in town, and at schools especially .There currently is one on the west side of Memorial Bridge in Kittery but it is faded. The only enforcable anti-idling is for buses per state law There is no local ordinance. Therefor that is the only situation that it can be enforced.

It was decided that expanding these ideas could take place through group emails and that an August meeting is TBD.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30