



# Sustainability Commission - Education Subcommittee -

## Sustainability Education Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: Tuesday, November 8, 2022  
Meeting Time: 1:00 PM  
Meeting Location: The Groton Grange, Champney Street, Groton

Attendees: Andrew Scott, Charlotte Weigel, Jim Simko, Phil Francisco

### Minutes:

Started – 1:00pm

- The group reviewed the “buckets” and potential educational/informational “sessions” and made some modifications in terms of grouping [e.g., “Energy” topics from Bucket IV moved into Bucket I, sessions 2 & 3 – “Heating/Cooling” and “Energy”], adding new topics [e.g., adding the dependency on cars in a rural town like Groton & alternatives to powering them to Bucket II, session 5 – “Personal Transportation”] and removing some [e.g., “Building Automation”].
- Phil also stated that it is important that we not lose sight of the topics that Jim indicated could also be covered by public pieces in the *Groton Herald* and elsewhere (indicated with a “2” marking in the Google doc).
- The subcommittee decided that the “Municipal Transportation” section under Bucket II should be handled as a separate topic to be covered with the Town Manager and Select Board first, before deciding if/when it should also be included as a specific informational session.
- The subcommittee decided that for the Commercial / Utility Energy session (#8), we would first request a session by GELD representative(s) with the Sustainability Commission and then, possibly, ask them to cover the topics included in that session in a more public and publicized education/information session.
- The subcommittee decided that for the Municipal Water Supply session (#10), we would first request a session by Water Department representative(s) with the Sustainability Commission and then, possibly, ask them to cover the topics included in that session in a more public and publicized education/information session.
- Phil took the first assignment to investigate potential speakers/leaders of various sessions – with David Black (Groton School), Tracy Chilcoat (NRWA), Ed McNierney (Conservation Commission, among others), and Keith Bergman (fmr. Littleton Town Manager & one of the leaders of the local Boston chapter of VP Al Gore’s [ClimateRealityProject.org](https://www.climateproject.org/)). Reported early positive traction, but still following up with some others in that list. At the next subcommittee meeting (Nov 29<sup>th</sup>), we will evaluate next steps with other potential presenters/coordinators.
- The group briefly discussed the approximate start date for the sessions (currently targeting late-March to mid-April to align with publicity for Earth Day 2023) as well as the frequency (bi-weekly, monthly, etc.) for the sessions. We agreed to discuss this further in a future meeting.
- The group discussed sending out a PUBLIC statement (via *Groton Herald* and social media channels) in January or early February, outlining the intended plans and topics to be covered and soliciting input from the PUBLIC for topics and/or volunteers to help reuse/develop content and deliver it in sessions. This will give our subcommittee a chance to tune the

content so that it is more aligned to what people are looking to learn more about and to engage more of the public from Groton to be more engaged in the topics overall and in the development and delivery of the content.

- Phil agreed to provide an overview of where the subcommittee is in the process at the next full Sustainability Commission meeting (Nov 22).
- Andrew provided info regarding session videorecording & playback by *Groton Channel* TV -- Ashley Doucette (Director of Groton Channel, [adoucette@thegrotonchannel.org](mailto:adoucette@thegrotonchannel.org)) is aware of our goal of creating some videos. Andrew has requested a student helper, and Ashley will contact students and find out who is interested in helping. Scheduling studio/recording time should not be difficult, just needs appropriate lead time.

Adjourned – 2:45pm

**Next Meeting: Tuesday, November 29, 2022**

Respectfully submitted,

- *Phil Francisco*, Sustainability Commission Vice-Chair

Minutes approved by Sustainability Education Subcommittee, November 29, 2022