

**Sustainable Hanover Committee
Meeting, May 17, 2023**

Attending - Members: Stowe Beam, Yolanda Baumgartner, Judi Colla, Marjorie Rogalski, Nancy Serrell, Lynn Sheldon, Dennis Robison, Marcus Welker, Catherine Rieke, Susan Edwards, Chris Kennedy; Town Staff: Peter Kulbacki, Robert Houseman; Guest: Melanie Podolec

1. Minutes The minutes of the April 19, 2023 meeting were approved.

2. Announcements:

There will be a Community Power panel hosted by Dartmouth's Sustainability Department and Justice Institute, Thursday, May 18, 4:30 pm at the Irving Institute.

Hanover housing opportunity workshop, May 22, 7:00 pm at Howe Library.

3. Master Plan Goals and Strategies: Part II – a continuing time for review and comment on current chapters.

Chapter 5: Preserving our character – Susan Edwards and Catherine Rieke.

Hanover is unique in the kinds of open spaces, trails, and rural areas available to residents and visitors. It is important to preserve the human as well as natural character of Hanover, being sensitive to minority voices, and Hanover's history. There is a need to acknowledge the stewardship of land by native Americans.

Chapter 6: Advancing multi-modal transportation – Stowe Beam and Barbara Callaway

Stowe Beam offered the comments. The Plan acknowledged the work of the bike walk committee. Changes are being made regularly and will be kept up to date rather than waiting for a final report. The plan is more interactive than other chapters. Sidewalks are a high priority, including bike lanes. The challenge will be how to fund them at an estimated cost of \$3-3.5 million. There is also the last mile problem of transportation – getting people to the transportation networks. There is a need to fund maintenance as well as improvements. Hanover has no authority over State roads, such as Greensboro Road which is in great need of improvement.

Chapter 6? – expanding housing opportunities – Chris Kennedy and Marjorie Rogalski

The Plan acknowledged the housing need as well as the variety – workforce and subsidized. Energy efficiency in new housing is important. Old, outdated standards are still being used. While there is a lot of support, NIMBY is still an issue. Accessory Development Units (ADU) are an option in New Hampshire, due to generous zoning regulations. It has more opportunities than most States. Housing needs to be looked at as a regional, not just a town issue. Rarely acknowledged is the fact that Hanover has performed better in this area than any town in the Upper Valley.

4. Newsletter: Dennis Robison reported that there will be at least four articles: Advanced Transit's new E-buses by Camry Gach and Grace Turner, Dartmouth students with the Energy Justice Clinic; HCP/CPCNH update by Rob Taylor. Dennis will have two articles – one on the status of EV Chargers and Senior Stewards Acting for the Environment (SSAFE) which will include sustainable efforts by Kendal at Hanover.

5. Other

Peter Kulbacki reported on the most recent Hanover Community Power information. More people are opting up and opting in. CPCNH is preparing for the next bid for power and subsequent rate settings, hopefully before July 1. Etna is still not enrolled due to Liberty Energy not realizing it was a part of Hanover. However, it is underway.

Respectfully submitted,
Dennis Robison, Secretary