

Sustainability Committee Meeting Minutes from June 20, 2018

Attendees: Cindy Unangst, Jamie Moore, Rick Dietrick, Mark Carney, Doug Martin, Keith Staley, Sean O’Keeffe

1. May minutes approved

2. Next meeting will be Wednesday, July 18 (5 to 6:30 pm)

3. Speakers:

a. **Lee Popkin, Sierra Club:** presentation about John Muir Scholarship, open to all high school seniors in Frederick County, \$1000 minimum award, Facebook page “The John Muir Scholarship,” Catoctin Group website www.sierraclub.org/maryland/catoctin-group, looking to expand into other areas to help students, form partnerships with other groups for student internships/camps. Can help by joining FB site, donate to scholarship fund.

b. **Paul Walker, Neighborhood Sun:** community solar advocate, Middletown valley resident. Subscribe to local solar panel project, pay fixed amount per kWh to Neighborhood Sun at a rate that is equal to or lower than your traditional electricity rate, any extra energy credits roll over to the next month. Currently building 20 acre facility in Williamsport, taking pre-subscriptions currently for about 300 homes, expecting to be fully subscribed by this December. 20 year contract, 10% discount off current cost of electricity plus additional 1% per year, transferrable on selling house or can take it with you if you move within the same area, penalty to cancel contract.

4. Green Expo:

a. Date for next year: April 13 or April 27—Cindy will check with All Shred and E-end for their availability. Cindy met with Sheriff’s Dept about traffic flow during event, consider using Fire Dept parking lot near primary school for All Shred and E-end to improve traffic flow, will need signage directing people to new site, rest of Green Expo will still be at Memorial Park.

5. Green Talks

a. June Green Talk (Brad Motter, invasive plants) was cancelled due to weather, hope to reschedule

b. July Talk: Composting Basics July 14 at FCPL Middletown branch

other events at FCPL this summer: July 11 Open Book Farm CSA, July 22 at 1 pm at Urbana branch--Media swap (consider having something like this at next Green Expo)

6. Pollinator meadow update – Ann proposed name change to Riparian Meadow Restoration, hope to start true pollinator meadow in future. Try to find future date to weed and plant flower plugs.

7. Middletown Library pollinator garden – needs more plants, please help!
8. Pollinator resolution – Need update from town about how pollinator resolution has impacted their practices. Keith proposed the Green Team make a formal annual report to town board about what we have accomplished over the past year.
9. Need to revise Green Team Action Plan
6. MEA Energy Action Grant – MEA gave the town a sign declaring Middletown a “Smart Energy Community,” still awaiting funding approval for projects (streetlights?).
7. Heritage Festival Sat Sept 29 (10 to 5)—volunteer sign-up sheet will be available next month