

CITY OF SOUTH PORTLAND, MAINE
SOUTH PORTLAND ENERGY & RECYCLING COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

February 27, 2019
6:30pm – 8:00pm

S. Portland Community Center
Large Conference Room

Committee Members

Jessica Williams - District 1 – Chair P
Andrew Capelluti - District 2 – Vice Chair P
Taylor Strubell – District 2 Secretary P
Michele Danois – District 2 P
Jaime Madore – District 2 P

Daniel Paul – District 3 P
Ellen Zimmerman District 2 P
Jessica Walker District 4 P
Vacant - School Department Liaison
Lucy Brennan - City Liaison P

Call to Order – 6:30pm

Agenda: Window Dressers 2019

SoPo Sustainability Pledge

WD: Taylor and Jessica went to Belfast for a WD meeting 2/22. We agreed that we ought to do another build for SoPO along the same time frame as 2018 (actually Jan 2019) hoping to get SMCC again. Our goal would be 250 inserts as we would have to kit build rather than waving Rockland build the frames. H

However there has been no committee vote, so it will be on the March Agenda.

Sustainability Pledge

Please refer to the attached Development Plan Document:

We tabled the name of the program.

Our goal for 2019 is to see 20 pledges signed in 2019.

We estimate we will need to target 40 businesses.

We think these businesses should be spread around the city.

Re Pledge practices:

We need to add 2 to replace Styrofoam and plastic bags in the MDI pledge.

Some possibilities:

Use local food for some percentage of food (what is local? What is a reasonable percentage?)

Set a recycling goal?

Use biofuels?

Only use ocean marine friendly products.

The pledge needs to accentuate the positive, nonpunitive. We should take the “nots” off the pledge and reword.

Should we pick 3 different places and ask them to a meeting down the road to get perspectives?

Publicity and recognition:

How do we promote the program? After initial outreach to the businesses, send out press release (Sentry and others) After businesses reach their target, give them a door or window sticker. When and how do we publicize once businesses have made the pledge? Do we do an article in the paper with list of businesses? Ongoing list on City's web page?

Invite 2 or 3 businesses that are already in different stages of sustainability and show ones that aren't what others are doing.

Find resources for alternative things to use. Can we piggyback on the Sam Dipietro Award?

Do we need different levels of compliance? i.e. new "special stickers" after some time.

State o ME EPA has a green restaurant certification to explore.

How do we publicly recognize businesses? Door decal? Jessica Williams to investigate. Could High School Green Team/Art department design?

Action items: Jaime will write letter of introduction.

I think Jessica Williams to check into cost of stickers.

Andrew to customize pledge practices into positives.

Jessica Williams to contact Amy Eshoo re A Climate to Thrive.

Lucy to work up spreadsheet with a list of local businesses (not national or regional chains).

We all are to ponder the name and think about 2 or 3 businesses to invite.

See the Questions for a Climate to Thrive.

Respectfully submitted,

Taylor Strubell