

CITY OF NORWALK
AD HOC SUSTAINABILITY AND RESILIENCE COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 9, 2025
VIA ZOOM VIRTUAL MEETING

ATTENDANCE: Johan Lopez; Chair, Heather Dunn, Josh Goldstein, Nora Niedzielski–Eichner

STAFF: Jodi Trendler, Director of Sustainability and Resilience

OTHER: Ann Wennerstrand, Tom Livingston

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Lopez called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Mr. Lopez called the roll as reflected above

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Diane Lauricella
21 Little Fox Lane

Ms. Lauricella said she was looking forward to the presentations about the possibility of the city joining the Global Covenant of Mayors. This was something she looked into when she was helping with the Mayor's energy and environmental task force. She referred to the slideshow as presented in the agenda and added several steps she was also hoping to hear about. She also indicated she felt there has to be a ban on artificial turf fields. She also stated her wish to be appointed to a sustainability committee as part of a blue ribbon task force..

IV. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

A. Regular Meeting: February 12, 2025

**** MS. DUNN AND MR. GOLDSTEIN MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Director of Sustainability and Resilience Introduction.

Ms. Trendler presented a slide show showing her goals for helping to make Norwalk the greenest city. She started by saying her job is funded through 2026 by an ARPA grant. And a fellowship in conjunction with The Association of Climate Change Officers. Her presentation went as follows:

- Defining the *Greenest City*
- Sustainability Implementation
- Operationalizing sustainability
- Resourcing information, funds, support, and educational outreach

Ms. Tendler then gave an overview of her 16 monthly which included the following:

- Establishing the *Greenest City* accounting process.
- Establishing an ongoing *Green Team* to define the goals and targets and prioritize implementation strategies.
- Identifying resources and support actions
- Creating Community education and outreach to include a newsletter, monthly events, and coordinating community organizations.

Ms. Tendler next discussed greenhouse gases, their sources and impact. She then stated they would be coming up with the definition of *greenest city*. She noted greenhouse gasses would be the primary indicator for that. Ms. Tendler defined her role As the person who coordinates, analyzes and assists.

She presented a slide that showed the co-benefits to the public and listed the reasons why people want to be in Norwalk. She noted the major sources of greenhouse gases in the city.

Ms. Tendler then presented a series of slides showing where Norwalk is currently at. She also discusses the IPCC recommendations and the plan to be net zero for greenhouse gas emissions

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by 2025. She then brought up the Global Covenant of Mayors and their role in helping to achieve this goal. She noted the state already has goals, and the city will be aligning its targets with the state and the IPCC. Ms. Tendler presented a slide showing the city's targets.

Mr. Lopez asked how Ms. Tendler envisioned getting community members involved. Ms. Tendler reiterated it would involve using community organizations to consistently bring the community together. The idea is to make community efforts less redundant and limit competing for resources.

Ms. Niedzielski-Eichner was interested in outreach to the non-English speaking members of the community. And engaging organizations that don't have environmental issues at the top of their agenda. Ms. Tendler said she wanted to make sure all the members of the community were represented. and would be reaching out for help.

B. Greenest City Initiative Discussion

a. Earth Day Planning

Earth Day planning was not discussed

b. Global Covenant of Mayors Commitment

The Global Covenant of Mayors Commitment was not discuss.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

**** MS. DUNN MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
China Mayhew
Telesco Secretarial Services

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