



Meeting Minutes - Tuesday, January 22, 2019

Milton Sustainability Committee

2nd Floor – Milton Public Library - 5:30 PM
Milton, DE 19968

- Meeting called to order: 5:34 pm
- Roll call of members: Louis Colon (Chair), Ellen Lytton (Vice Chair), Michela Coffaro, Anita Capparell
- Citizen Guests: Jean Holloway (SERCAP), Jennifer Egan (UMD EFC), Brandy Espinola (UMD EFC) via conference call, David LaFazia (DelTech), Sam Garde, Bette McGrath
- Agenda for January 22, 2019 approved with modifications. Motion made by E. Lytton to add under Ongoing business a discussion of an inventory of the town's assets and the committee's draft sustainability plan, under New Business discussion of moving the regular meeting date of the committee and also under New Business a discussion of a date to invite WMDT Channel 47 to a meeting. Motion was seconded and passed.
- Approval of minutes: November 27, 2018 minutes approved
- **Ongoing Business**
 - The committee and Brandi Espinola (UMD EFC) discussed a road map and expectations for the development of a sustainability action plan for the town of Milton.
 - The committee agreed to provide the following deliverables to B. Espinola prior to the February meeting:
 - 1) the committee's five-point draft sustainability action plan,
 - 2) an Excel copy of the committee's citizen outreach survey data
 - Additional action items for the committee:
 - 1) Compiling a list of town stakeholders in preparation for an April stakeholders' public forum. Date of the forum to be determined
 - 2) Completing an inventory of the town's physical, social and economic assets.
- **New Business**
 - ***Town council's request for the Sustainability Committee to provide a recommendation as to whether the town's Resolution 2016-002 Opposition to Seismic Testing and Drilling Off the Atlantic Coast should be updated.*** Councilmen Sam Garde provided background to the committee on the Council's request. After discussion E. Lytton made a motion that the Sustainability Committee recommends that Resolution 2016-002 be resubmitted to the Council and that Council reissue/resent the Resolution as a 2019 resolution to all appropriate federal and state officials and agencies in light of administrative changes at both the federal and state levels. The motion was seconded and passed.

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- **Letter to Cape Gazette:** A motion was made by M. Coffaro that a letter be sent to the Cape Gazette in response to their 12/24/18 news article on current permitting for seismic testing informing the Gazette that the town of Milton in 2016 took a public stand against seismic testing through town resolution 2016-002. The motion was seconded and passed.
 - Action Item: M. Coffaro will draft a copy of the letter for review by the chair and the committee.
- **Certificate of Appreciation:** Committee will present a certificate of appreciation to the Backyard Restaurant at the committee's February, 2019 meeting. The certificate recognizes the Backyard as the first Milton restaurant to switch to sustainable straws. If the committee chair or a representative from the Backyard is unable to attend the February meeting, the presentation will be rescheduled for the March meeting.
- **Proposal to change the date of the monthly Sustainability Meeting:** E. Lytton introduced the motion to change the regular monthly meeting of the committee to the second (2nd) Monday of the month in order to accommodate the schedules of all the committee members. Motion was seconded and passed.
- **Update WMDT Channel 47:** Committee chair, L. Colon, spoke with WMDT informing them of the committee's November 27, 2018 vote to invite them to a future meeting adding that the committee had not yet set a specific date. Following the chair's update, the general consensus of the committee was to hold off setting a specific date until dates had been set for a special event such as the stakeholder's forum or the presentation of the Certificate of Appreciation.
- **Agenda items for January 22, 2019:**
 - Presentation of the Milton Sustainability Committee's certificate of appreciation to the Backyard Restaurant.
 - SERCAP Grant: Review of the stakeholders list and the asset inventory.
 - Letter to the Gazette
 - Committee assignments for upcoming public festivals.
- Meeting adjourned: 7:30pm

To: Mayor and Milton Town Council
CC: Kristy Rodgers, Town Manager
From: Milton Sustainability Committee
Subject: Advisory Report on Resolution 2016-002 Opposition to Seismic Testing and Drilling Off the Atlantic coast

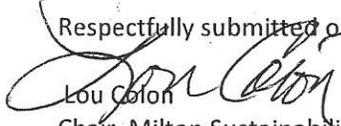
At their January 22, 2019 meeting the Milton Sustainability Committee took up the request from the Mayor and Milton Town Council to review the applicability of Resolution 2016-002 Opposition to Seismic Testing & Drilling Off the Atlantic Coast. Based on recent actions by the U.S. Department of Interior through the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management and the U.S. Department of Commerce through the National Marine Fisheries Service to go forward with issuing permits allowing seismic testing off the Atlantic coast, the Sustainability Committee recommends that the Town of Milton reissue Resolution 2016-002 as a 2019 resolution with the following changes and additions.

1. The first "Whereas" needs to be reworded to indicate that permitting is no longer being proposed, but is actually in the process of being implemented. For example: *Whereas, the U.S. Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) is moving forward with issuing permits for seismic testing off the Atlantic coast*

2. The new resolution be sent to a broader group of recipients:
 - Delaware's U.S. Congressional Representatives
 - Governor Carney
 - Milton's State Senator and Representative
 - DNREC – Secretary Shawn M. Garvin
 - US Secretary of Commerce – Wilber Ross
 - NOAA Fisheries (National Marine Fisheries Service (Commerce) – Director of NOAA Fisheries Chris Oliver, Assistant Administrator for Fisheries
 - US Secretary of Interior – Acting Secretary David Bernhardt
 - Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (Dept. of Interior) – Acting Director Walter Cruickshank
 - Cape Gazette Newsroom

Please contact the Committee with any questions regarding our recommendations.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Milton Sustainability Committee,


Lou Colon
Chair, Milton Sustainability Committee
January 28, 2019