



**New Albany Sustainability Advisory Board
March 8, 2023 Approved Minutes**

The Sustainability Advisory Board met for the Board’s regularly scheduled session at the New Albany Village Hall, 99 W. Main St, and was called to order by Mr. Filiatraut at 6:34 PM.

Those answering roll call:

Mr. Brian Filiatraut, Chair	Present
Mr. Charles Schumacher, Vice-Chair	Present
Ms. Catherine Duffy, Secretary	Absent
Mr. Peter Barnes	Present
Ms. Laura Gallo	Present
Mr. Steven Conway	Present
Mr. Scott Harrold	Present
Ms. Lily McGraw (Student Member)	Present
Mr. Kasey Kist (Council Liaison)	Absent

Staff members present: Adrienne Joly, Director of Administrative Services; Mike Barker, Director of Public Service; and Anna van der Zwaag, Planner II.

Mr. Filiatraut asked if there were any corrections to the February 8, 2023 Sustainability Advisory Board meeting minutes.

No corrections were noted.

Mr. Schumacher moved to approve the February 8, 2023 Sustainability Advisory Board meeting minutes. Seconded by Ms. Gallo and the Sustainability Advisory Board voted with 6 yes votes, 0 no votes, and 0 abstention to approve the minutes.

Mr. Filiatraut asked if there were any additions or corrections to the agenda.

No additions or corrections to the agenda were noted.

Mr. Filiatraut noted there were no members of the public present to speak to items not on the agenda.

Business

Student Sustainability Grant

Ms. van der Zwaag introduced the first item of business, the student sustainability grant.

Ms. van der Zwaag stated the Board voted on their favorite name for the grant and the most popular was “Student Leaders in Sustainability.”

Ms. van der Zwaag discussed the project areas for the grant, noting specific changes that were made since the Board previously discussed the grant.

Mr. Barnes stated this looks good and is more inclusive in terms of projects.

Ms. van der Zwaag asked if the community engagement portion should be separated so all projects include a community component.

Mr. Filiatraut suggested using a star/asterisk.

Mr. Filiatraut asked if the application will be online and could include hyperlinks and definitions.

Ms. Joly stated that is a good idea and language will need to be at a level that high school students will understand as they apply.

Ms. van der Zwaag presented the expanded evaluation criteria which was discussed at last month's meeting. Staff noted that those applying will need to be a part of an organization or group that can accept funds rather than granting funds directly to students.

Mr. Barnes stated it was a good compromise to have the requirement that clubs applying need to consist of a majority of students who live in New Albany's municipal boundary.

Ms. Gallo asked what if there was one student who had a really great idea – are they able to apply for the grant.

Ms. Joly stated they would need an advisor or sponsor or someone in the school district that could assume the fiscal responsibility; if they can demonstrate that they have an advisor the funds could flow through then they could apply.

Ms. Joly asked what the structure is for clubs that require do fundraising?

Ms. Gallo stated student council is a budgeted organization, but at the intermediate school there aren't a lot of clubs.

Mr. Barnes stated all clubs have an adult sponsor overseeing the club and funding.

Ms. McGraw asked about an eagle scout type project – would that count as an individual or a group.

Ms. Joly stated she believes there is a structure in place within those organizations with a leader and funding mechanism.

Ms. van der Zwaag asked if there were any questions about the funding amount.

Mr. Filiatraut agreed it was fine.

Ms. van der Zwaag suggested an application deadline of October 31, with a Q&A session before the deadline.

Mr. Filiatraut asked when the application will be launched.

Ms. Joly stated that should ultimately be up to the school district. The next step after finalizing this with the Board will be to reach back out to the school and fine tune some of these details. The final step will be to have Councilman Kist take the program to Council for final approval.

Ms. van der Zwaag provided an overview of the application questions.

Several members requested including more examples of each item for the students to be able to better understand what is being asked.

Ms. van der Zwaag asked the appropriate number of check-ins for students throughout the course of the project.

Ms. Gallo stated start with two and if more are needed, the Board can encourage that.

Ms. Gallo suggested clarifying more about who is allowed to be a sponsor.

Mr. Schumacher suggested including a question about other adult participation or roles in the application to distill the parent or adult expectations for completing the project.

Mr. Barnes asked if there is a component that checks if the student has full permission from the school to move forward with the project, such as school board approval.

Ms. van der Zwaag stated she will add that as a separate question or checkbox.

Mr. Filiatraut suggested having the students provide cost estimates or documentation for their supplies they need to complete the project to know their funding value request is accurate.

Mr. Barnes asked how far ahead students need to propose their senior seminar project.

Ms. McGraw stated the last weekend if they start in the summer, and at the beginning of the school year for students starting in the fall.

Mr. Schumacher asked for clarification on the funding mechanism and if there is a way to fund senior seminar projects.

Ms. Joly stated they will ask the school more about their capabilities for managing a student's grant award when staff meets with them.

Mr. Conway asked about what would happen if a student only spends a portion of the amount they were awarded.

Mr. Barnes stated the school district prefers to stay away from reimbursement if they can avoid it.

Ms. Joly stated staff will take these ideas to the school as well as the finance department to better understand those logistics. If there are changes based on those conversations, staff will bring those changes back to the Board.

Mr. Schumacher suggested including a clause that states something along the lines of "award pending approval of all permitting and processes" or something along those lines.

Ms. Joly agreed.

Earth Day to Arbor Day Planning

Ms. van der Zwaag provided an update on the Earth Day to Arbor Day plans, including the e-waste drive on Saturday, a bench dedication in honor of Bill Resch, a compost 101 open house, a native landscaping lecture at the Heit Center, a community cleanup event, a conversation with Green Columbus, and an Arbor Day proclamation and tree planting with students.

Ms. van der Zwaag asked if there was interest in putting on another activity on the night where there wasn't something planned yet.

Mr. Filiatraut suggested a movie or documentary.

Ms. Joly stated there will also be a lot of self-directed activities people will be able to do through the passport app that is being developed, where people can check in while they're doing various Earth Day-related activities.

Other Project Updates

Ms. van der Zwaag provided an update on the compost program, including discussion on the mailer sent out by the Compost Exchange. She stated the Compost Exchange is offering a free 6-week pilot program for curbside composting. When this pilot is over, the cost is \$54 per quarter.

Ms. van der Zwaag stated she reached out to Upper Arlington to learn more about their curbside pilot they are currently doing with GoZERO. She provided an overview of the information she received including costs and participation rates.

Mr. Schumacher stated he was curious how HOA's would regulate people placing yellow buckets out on the porches for pickup.

Ms. van der Zwaag asked if anyone had other ideas for applying for either of SWACO's grants.

No other ideas were provided.

Other Business

Ms. van der Zwaag stated this is the annual organizational meeting and staff have developed a new training video for onboarding new board and commission members.

Ms. van der Zwaag played the video.

Ms. van der Zwaag requested nominations for chair, vice-chair, and secretary.

Mr. Barnes stated he supports keeping current positions the same.

Ms. Gallo asked if Mr. Schumacher and Mr. Filiatraut were okay keeping their current positions.

Mr. Schumacher and Mr. Filiatraut agreed they are willing to stay with their current roles.

Mr. Schumacher moved to nominate Mr. Filiatraut as chairperson, Mr. Schumacher as vice-chairperson, and Ms. Duffy as secretary. Seconded by Ms. Gallo and the Sustainability Advisory Board voted with 6 yes votes, 0 no votes, and 0 abstention to approve the nominations.

Ms. van der Zwaag asked if the Board would like to keep the same meeting date, time, location of the meetings.

Ms. Gallo moved to keep the same date, time, and place of monthly meetings. Seconded by Mr. Conway and the Sustainability Advisory Board voted with 6 yes votes, 0 no votes, and 0 abstention to approve the

date, place, and time for the meetings as 6:30 PM on the second Wednesday of each month at Village Hall.

Poll Members for Comment

Mr. Filiatraut asked if there were any other comments from the Board.

Mr. Conway asked about the Vertex tour next month.

Ms. van der Zwaag stated she will send out more details via email, but it will be the same day and time.

Mr. Filiatraut motioned to adjourn the meeting with a second from Mr. Conway. All were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.