



Minutes are considered "Draft" until approved by the Committee. Please contact the Planning and Zoning Office for a copy of final minutes.

Minutes
Joint Green Efforts Committee
October 2, 2018
6:30 p.m.

Present:

In attendance:

Patti Boye-Williams
Cate Grady Benson
Katy Perry
Rodger Phillips
John Tucker

Shannon Rutherford, Assistant Town Planner

A. Call to Order – 6:34pm.

B. Public Comment

Catherine Noujaim – resident

1. Catherine provided information on a home composting service, Blue Earth Compost. She is utilizing the service and has had a good experience with them.
2. She suggested that Farmington consider implementing a curbside yard waste pick up. She cited the difficulty of some residents being able to bring their yard waste to Tunxis Mead do to the limited hours the facility is open and those that do not own a truck or utility vehicle in which to haul yard waste.
3. She made the committee aware of a Facebook Group – ‘Buy Nothing’. This group serves as an on-line swap of items no longer needed that could be used by someone else. A chapter / page was recently opened for Farmington.

C. Administrative / Communications

Meeting Minute approval for:

a. September 10, 2018 – M/S/A – J. Tucker / C. Grady Benson / all

2. Explore Farmington:

a. The Invasive Species Management blog post was uploaded to Explore Farmington in mid-September.

b. Rodger is slated to complete the October blog.

Below is the schedule of the blog postings and topics.

April	Cate	Annual Clean Up Day
June	Patti	Textile Recycling Shannon post Clean Up Day results
July (late)	Patti	LED street light conversion
August	John	CT Water Planting Area/ Invasive Species Management
October	Rodger	Harvesting / Growing cycle
December	Katy	Energy Savings projects – household focus
February	Andrea	Energy Saving / Recycling efforts for students

Other topic ideas: waste reduction techniques, water usage / conservation, alternatives to using wrapping paper

D. Waste Reduction

a. Old Business

1. 2019 Annual Clean-Up Day
 - i. The Committee agreed that the Clean-up date should coincide with the Household Hazardous Waste Collection date.
 - ii. The tentative date is April 27, 2019. All other Saturdays in April are impacted by either Spring break for the Farmington School system, or Easter.
 - iii. Cate noted that the Trail Clean-up is scheduled for April 13, 2019.
 - iv. Outreach to the local community organizations can begin in early 2019.
 - v. Rodger noted that the Town of Avon has an Adopt a Road program that is hosted through their highway department.
 - vi. Depending on the spring weather, Cate and Katy may contact the groups that signed up to Adopt a Spot in Farmington to do an early clean-up in advance of roadside mowing starting.
 - vii. Katy will contact Berkshire Bank to see if there is an interest on their part to sponsor the event.
- 2) Textile Recycling
 - 1) No current update.

b. New Business

- a. Expand on Brainstorming from September meeting – Waste Reduction techniques for Businesses
 - i. The group discussed next steps; which includes, developing a checklist, recognition of participants, implementation.
 - ii. The group reviewed the brainstorming information from last month to align the focus of the discussion.
 - iii. Consider having participants sign a pledge and issue recognition based on the pledge.
 - iv. Checklists will be different for different businesses / business types. Consider starting with one business type – implement, review results, modify and then roll-out with other business types. The consensus was to start with restaurants.
 - v. The Committee decided that a sub-committee should be formed to work on the details and then report back to the Committee. Sub-Committee members are: Katy Perry, Betty DaCruz and Rodger Phillips.

E. Open Space Management / Invasive Species Reduction

a. Old Business

- i. CT Water Planting Area Update: Katy, Betty and Shannon worked on September 21st to remove all of the knotweed from the planting area.

b. New Business - None

F. Other Items

- 1) Members of the West Hartford Clean Energy Commission will join us at our December 4th meeting to share and exchange ideas.
- 2) The Draft 2019 meeting schedule was distributed and is attached. The Committee will vote on the schedule at the November meeting.

Adjourn 7:25 pm

cc: Kathy Eagen, Town Manager
Kathy Greider, Superintendent of Schools
Chris Fagan, Board of Education
Tim Harris, Director of School Facilities
Mary Paganini, Administrative Assistant
Rose Ponte, Director of Economic Development
Russ Arnold, Director of Public Works
Erica Robertson, Assistant Town Manager