



*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**

May 7, 2019

6:30 p.m.

In attendance:

Patti Boye-Williams

Katy Perry

Stacey Petruzella

Cate Grady-Benson

Betty DaCruz

Andrea Sobinski

Erica Robertson, Assistant Town Manager

Absent:

John Tucker

Rodger Phillips

**A. Call to Order** -The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

**B. Public Comment**- None

**C. Presentation**- None

**D. Administrative / Communications**

1. To Approve the March 5, 2019 meeting minutes. M/S/A– Perry / Pretuzella/ all in favor as amended
2. Explore Farmington – discuss blogs and due dates – The following will be posted
  - 1) Waste Reduction article written by Patti
  - 2) Waste Reduction article written by Maddie Parent
  - 3) Green Spot Light – from newsletter
3. Green Efforts Newsletter – There has been a good amount of positive feedback about the newsletter. The committee would like to continue it in the future. The town wide quarterly newsletters will also be used by the committee to get their message out. A good example of the positive impact of the newsletter was the plug for the “buy nothing” Facebook page. That site has seen a big uptick in use. The next dedicated green newsletter will be a comprehensive waste reduction newsletter with information on reusable bags, electronics, paint, composting etc.

**E. Waste Reduction**

1. Old Business
  - 1) 2019 Annual Clean Up Day – The day was a success. We had less of a turn out than 2018, but the weather was not good on April 27, 2019. Overall the day was a success as we collected 2,877 pounds of trash. The committee made a motion (DaCruz/Perry) to request a special recognition for EBM Pabst by the Town Council for their continued commitment to the annual clean up day. Erica will follow up with this item.
  - 2) Waste Reduction Sub-Committee report – The Green Spot Light initiative will be highlighted on the web page and other social media outlets as well as in town buildings. Noah Wallace School – Styrofoam has been eliminated. Reusable 6 compartment trays are in place. The plan is to have this program move to all of the schools next year. There is possibly a bill at the state that might mandate this as well.
  - 3) Textile Recycling – The Committee would like to move forward with this initiative. West and East Hartford both have this program in place for reference.
  
2. New Business- new initiative discussion - Areas of discussion included a swap shack, a fix it program at the senior center, pay as you throw trash system. There was also discussion about having Representative Mike Demicco come to a future meeting as he is the Chair of the Environmental Committee. The group will also work with the Town on the MSW Management goals.

**F. Open Space Management / Invasive Species Reduction**

1. Old Business
  - 1) CT Water Planting Area – The committee is interested in seeing if there is any more to be done with this area. The work was completed this year on May 7. The committee also wanted to know if a rain garden was being built near the CT Planting area.
2. New Business – none

**G. Other Business** – Katy Perry will be moving to Avon this summer. She will no longer be able to participate on the committee as a voting member. Katy was one of the original members of the Farmington Green Efforts Committee that was established a decade ago. We thank her for all of her time and effort on the committee and wish her well in her new adventure in Avon.

**H. Adjournment** - The meeting adjourned at 7:32 pm M/S/A- DaCruz/ all in favor.



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