

Agenda
Joint Green Efforts Committee

October 1, 2019
Town Hall, Council Chambers
6:30 p.m.

- A. Call to Order**
 - B. Public Comment**
 - C. Presentations – None**
 - D. Administrative / Communications**
 - 1. To Approve the August 7, 2019 and September 3, 2019 meeting minutes.
 - 2. Explore Farmington – discuss blog ideas
 - 3. Green Efforts Newsletter –
 - discuss next edition content and deadline
 - 4. Plastic Pollution Presentation – Sept 16, 2019- Debriefing
 - E. Waste Reduction**
 - 1. Old Business
 - 1) Rose Ponte – Economic Development Director – discuss how to engage the business community in waste reduction.
 - 2) November meeting – Jose Fontanez, Chartwells
 - 3) Textile Recycling- update
 - 2. New Business
 - F. Open Space Management / Invasive Species Reduction**
 - 1. Old Business
 - 1) CT Water Planting Area – knotweed removal – public participation
 - 2. New Business
 - G. Other Business**
 - Facebook Page Editors
 - H. Adjournment**
- cc: Kathy Blonski, Town Manager
Russ Arnold, Director of Public Works / Town Engineer
Paula Ray, Town Clerk
Kathy Greider, Superintendent of Schools
Chris Fagan, Board of Education
Mary Paganini, Administrative Assistant
Sandra Michaud, Land Use Coordinator

Minutes
Joint Green Efforts Committee
August 7, 2019
6:30 p.m.

In attendance:

Patti Boye-Williams
Stacey Petruzella
Cate Grady-Benson
Betty DaCruz
Andrea Sobinski

Erica Robertson, Assistant Town Manager

Absent:

John Tucker
Rodger Phillips
Jennifer Wynn

I. Call to Order -The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:39 pm.

J. Public Comment- None

K. Presentation- None

L. Administrative / Communications

1. To Approve the May 7, 2019 meeting minutes. 1 typo change nest to next M/S/A– DaCruz / Sobinski/ all in favor as amended.
2. Blog ideas – use NY RecycleRightNY - see Stacy’s email dec.ny.gov
 - 1) Does Diane have a Facebook account – make her an administrator of the Green Efforts Facebook page
 - 2) Bags – A motion was made –(M/S/A- Grady-Benson / Petruzella) to allow the purchase of reusable bags up to a cost of \$500. The bags should be available at the Sept 16 special event.
 - 3) Green Efforts Newsletter Newsletter - It was decided to publish another newsletter in Mid-November / before Thanksgiving – How to reduce waste in Holidays, bags in general, rules etc have been discussed as topics for inclusion.
 - 4) **Legislative Update**
 1. Bags tax and ban did pass.
 2. Offshore wind passed, procure energy from offshore turbines
 3. Styrofoam trays did not pass
 4. Virtual net metering – cap was expanded for municipalities
 - 5) Plastic Pollution Presentation – Sept. 16th. A motion was made and seconded to Co-sponsor a recycling program presentation with the Farmington Library on September 16, 2019 M/S/A Petruzella / Grady-Benson. It was discussed that we would look to market this program with some special notes:
 1. Friday Folders Siya – FHS students
 2. Middle school teachers – Messie
 3. Porters girls invite

M. Waste Reduction

1. Short report from the Waste Reduction Subcommittee – We will work on an In the Spotlight article for EBM Pabst. Cate GB and Betty will work together to produce something for Rose’s newsletter.
2. Take off the Noah Wallace school agenda item
3. Textile Recycling – this is moving along and will be discussed at the staff level in the next several weeks.

N. Open Space Management / Invasive Species Reduction

1. Old Business
 - 1) None
2. New Business – Reach out to girl scouts and boy scouts for Knotweed removal and ask if they would do it.
 - 1) Christie Bouker and Tiffany Noonan for Girl Scouts
 - 2) Olivio Germano for Boy Scouts

O. Other Business –

1. **Green Design** – How can we get on agenda/public comment for FHS Green roof, solar and charging station?
2. Next meeting – Sept 3

P. Adjournment - The meeting adjourned at 7:49 pm M/S/A- / all in favor.

**Minutes
Joint Green Efforts Committee**

**September 3, 2019
Town Hall, Council Chambers
6:30 p.m.**

In Attendance:

Jennifer Wynn
Betty DaCruz
Stacey Petruzella
Patti Boye-Williams

Maureen Messier
Erica Robertson, Assistant Town Manager

Absent

Rodger Phillips
Cate Grady-Benson
Andrea Sobinski

Q. Call to Order

The chair called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m.

R. Public Comment

None.

S. Presentations

Jennifer Wynn was introduced as a new member of the committee. Maureen Messier attended and will be appointed as a member of the committee at the Town Council meeting held on September 10, 2019. The committee welcomed both of them to the group.

T. Administrative / Communications

1. To Approve the August 7, 2019 meeting minutes.

The vote was not held as a quorum was not present.

2. Explore Farmington – discuss blog ideas.

Stacey Petruzella emailed four options from Recycle Right. Erica Robertson will have Diane Becker, Communications Specialist, create posts about these options on the Explore Farmington webpage as well as the Green Efforts Facebook page.

3. Green Efforts Newsletter – discuss next edition content

1) Ideas thus far – reducing Holiday waste, bag law, ideas from 9/16/19

The committee discussed ideas for the next edition of the Green Efforts Newsletter. The following tasks will be taken on by the following committee members with a deadline of October 18, 2019:

- Reducing Holiday Waste – Maureen M.
- New Year's Resolution – Jennifer Wynn
- Buy Nothing Day – Stacey Petruzella

- Holiday Things You Can/Can't Recycle – Patti Boye-Williams
- September 16th Follow Up Article – Erica Robertson
- Blurb Facebook Page and Explore Farmington – Erica Robertson
- Textile Recycling – Erica Robertson
- Community-Supported Agriculture/ Buying Local – Betty DaCruz

4. Plastic Pollution Presentation – Sept 16, 2019

1) Committee Participation / Attendance

The committee urged the sharing of social media posts. We need to have 30 attendees.

U. Waste Reduction

1. Old Business

1) Waste Reduction Sub-Committee report

The Waste Reduction Subcommittee disbanded as it served its purpose. Members of the committee thanked the subcommittee for their service and good work.

2) Textile Recycling- Discuss program

Patti Boye-Williams discussed the Textile Recycling program. A contract will be discussed at the Town Council Meeting held in October. Erica Robertson will keep this program moving forward.

2. New Business – new initiative continued discussion - narrow down

1) Discuss possible reusable bag promotion – 140 bags ordered

140 yellow bags with the color logo were ordered and are arriving on September 6, 2019. These bags will be given out at the September 16, 2019 event. These bags could also be given out at cleanup day and other future events as well.

New Initiatives:

- Ask Rose Ponte, Economic Development Director, how to engage the business community in waste reduction.
- Explore pay to throw
- Textile Recycling
- Schools reduction of waste

V. Open Space Management / Invasive Species Reduction

1. Old Business

1) CT Water Planting Area – knotweed removal – public participation

The committee will reach out to Shannon Rutherford to ask about connecting groups with Knotweed removal.

2. New Business

The committee will extend a meeting invitation to Chartwells for the November meeting. The regular November meeting must be moved due to election day.

The committee will reach out to Scott Hurwitz, FHS Principal, to discuss the Connect Program for possible volunteer efforts with green efforts initiative.

Updating the Facebook page editors will be added to the October meeting agenda.

W. Other Business

The next meeting will be held on October 1, 2019.

X. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m. Petruzella/DaCruz all in favor.

cc: Kathy Blonski, Town Manager
Russ Arnold, Director of Public Works / Town Engineer
Paula Ray, Town Clerk
Kathy Greider, Superintendent of Schools
Chris Fagan, Board of Education
Mary Paganini, Administrative Assistant
Sandra Michaud, Land Use Coordinator