

**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

**A. Call to Order**

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

**B. Public Comment**

None.

**C. 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.

**D. 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 16<sup>th</sup> 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.

**E. 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

**F. 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.

**G. Other Business**

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

**H. 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