

Minutes
Joint Green Efforts Committee
September 1, 2015
Conference Room A
6:30 p.m.

Present:

In attendance:

John Vibert, Chair
John Hinze
Betty DaCruz
Katy Perry
Cate Grady-Benson

Erica Robertson, Assistant Town Manager
Rose Ponte, Economic Development
Terry Vujs (resident)

- A. Call to Order.
The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm
- B. Public Comment.
None
- C. To Approve the Following Minutes.
The Green Efforts Committee meeting dated June 2, 2015 was approved unanimously (Grady-Benson/Perry)

The Green Efforts Committee meeting dated July 7, 2015 was approved unanimously (Grady-Benson/Perry)
- D. Old Business
 - 1. Discuss goals and future initiatives:
 - a. Solarize Town of Farmington- survey all municipal buildings to see where solar panels can be placed. It is necessary to decide whether buying as a capital project or a power purchase agreement is best for acquiring the solar panels. Additionally, investigate the option for solar on town property, a firm in Middletown with this capacity was discussed.
 - b. Fulfill Community Pledge
 - c. Solarize (residential) program- to wrap up this program the Committee needs to receive a list of all solar installs that have been completed and additional information on how they were done from Peter Stevenson from All Green It. Another effort to wrap up this project is to survey users and issue a press release.

- d. Adopt a Road- This initiative is an effort to get businesses to sponsor a stretch of road. This will be mirrored after the State of Connecticut's adopt a Highway Program to increase public involvement to keep the roadside clean from litter. Cate Grady-Benson and Katy Perry will investigate further.
 - e. Communications- In an effort to improve communications and public awareness about the Green Efforts Committee, Facebook, the Town of Farmington website, and constant contact will be utilized. A Green Efforts section in the Economic Development Commission (Rose Ponte's) newsletter will be added to increase awareness. Green Efforts will supply the information to be included in the newsletter.
 - f. Solarize Farmington Businesses
 - g. Annual Clean Up Day
 - h. CT Green LEAF Schools Program- The Connecticut Green LEAF Schools Program helps schools become green by implementing green initiatives in schools (i.e. ensuring the school buildings maximize energy and water efficiency, focus on waste reduction and recycling, promote alternative transportation use).
 - i. Reduce the use of plastic bags & Styrofoam with a reusable bag promotion- reusable bags will be handed out at the Green Efforts Table at Unionville Festival on 9/27
 - j. Compost bins- make compost bins available to purchase for residents interested in composting.
2. Discuss Clean Energy Communities Program-Energy Efficiency Track- Eversource representatives, Stephanie Rogers and Alison Jackman, will be invited to the next meeting (10/6) to explain the Clean Energy Communities Program to the Committee
 3. Discuss CT Green Bank initiatives- Renewable Energy Track- the CT Green Bank initiatives was briefly discussed along with the Clean Energy Communities Program.
- E. Other Business.
1. Unionville Festival- the Unionville Festival, presented by the Unionville Village Improvement Association, is taking place on Sunday, September 27, 2015. Green Efforts will have a table and will collect email addresses/information from residents who want to get more information on Green Efforts. A representative needs to call the Unionville Village Improvement Association to find out if we are sharing a table with Rose Ponte or if Green Efforts will have its own table. Cate Grady-Benson has the reusable bags to distribute at the event.

2. Meeting schedule

The next Green Efforts Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, October, 6, 2015 at 6:30PM in Conference Room A.

F. Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:23 pm (Hinze/DaCruz).

cc: Paula Ray, Town Clerk to post
Deb Bull – by e-mail for the Web
Kathy Greider, Superintendent of Schools
Mary Grace Reed, Board of Education
Mary Paganini, Administrative Assistant