

Minutes
Joint Green Efforts Committee
April 5, 2016
6:30 p.m.

Present:

In attendance:

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

Rose Ponte, Economic Development Director
Shannon Rutherford, Assistant Town Planner

- A. Call to Order – The chair called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm.
- B. Public Comment
Jordan, a Farmington High School student, joined us for the meeting as part of a course requirement, and noted that she has worked on a cigarette butt removal project along Route 4 from Monteith Drive to Unionville Center. She suggested cigarette receptacles along the corridor may be helpful in deterring the disposal of the cigarette butts along the sidewalk and roadway.
- C. To Approve the Following Minutes.
The minutes of March 1, 2016 meeting were unanimously approved (Grady-Benson/Hinze)
- D. Old Business.
 - 1. Solar - Municipal Applicability
 - a. John Vibert has contacted a few vendors and is awaiting return calls.
 - 2. Discuss Goals
 - a. Annual Clean Up Day – April 30, 2016 is the date. Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day will also occur that day.
 - o The Flyer is complete and has been sent to the Managers Office for inclusion in the Town Newsletter. The Flyer includes the businesses that are contributing to the event.
 - o A link to the flyer is included on the main page of the Town website and the Green Efforts page. The flyer is also linked on the school Friday folders.
 - o All supplies needed for the day are secured.
 - o Additional help is still needed to have a representative at each check-in location from 8am to 1pm.
 - o The Planning Office will work at preparing a town map for use at each check-in location.
 - b. Community Pledge – Kat Howroyd has been working diligently with Eversource to have all of Farmington’s energy usage populated in their on-line Portfolio Manager system. Now that Farmington’s usage is being tracked on the Portfolio Manager we are eligible to submit the paperwork to redeem our accumulated Energy

Efficiency Points for a Bright Idea's Grant – approximately \$10,000.00. I will be following up to redeem the renewable energy points that have been accumulated.

- c. Outdoor Lighting Project – Town staff met with Loureiro Engineers in late March to review the lighting plans. Specific focus was given to the lighting plan for the Town Hall lot. A number of suggestions were made for optimizing the lighting. Additionally, Loureiro is working with Eversource to finalize the financial incentives that may be available for the change to LED lighting. Next steps include receiving an updated plan for the Town Hall lot, information regarding the Eversource incentives, and completing a detailed review of the other lighting plans.

3. Compost Bins

- a. The distribution date has been changed to Saturday, June 4th.
- b. Current Marketing efforts: A demonstration bin is located in the Town Hall lobby with a display board and flyers. Flyers are located at the Senior Center, there is a link on the main page and Green Efforts page of the town website, and Rose announced the sale in her newsletter. The sale will also be announced in the Annual Letter mailed to all residents.
- c. Additional Marketing Efforts:
 - i. Work with the Senior Center, Main Library and Barney Library to have a demonstration bin, display board and flyers setup at each location.
 - ii. Educational talks regarding composting and the advantage of using composting bins. Shannon to look into ability to use Everbridge to announce the presentations.
 - iii. Ask Fire Departments if a bin and info table can be set up outside of the fireman's breakfasts scheduled for this spring.
- d. Tentative schedule of Educational Presentations (arranged by Cate since the meeting):
 - i. Monday, May 2, 2016; 7:30pm; Senior Center, Meeting Room C – Steve Silk
 - ii. Saturday, May 7, 2016; 2pm; Main Library Community Room – Lauren Pogson
 - iii. Saturday, May 21, 2016; 11 am, Sub Edge Farm – Rodger and Isabelle Phillips
 - iv. Cate may look into having more educational presentations and / or having someone with us during the distribution of the bins to answer questions residents may have.

Cate cannot be at the Saturday May7th discussion so another committee member is needed to assist with the afternoon.

- e. Possible Press Release regarding the Compost Bin sale and the Educational discussions series. Shannon will work with Kat to see

what can be accomplished. The release should be sent to Farmington Valley Press, Valley Life, and Hartford Courant.

- f. We discussed the online order process and discussed the pros / cons of receiving orders by check at the town. Betty is going to follow up with Enviro World and confirm if there is a price differential if paid by check and what information needs to be collected for those paying by check.

4. Adopt A Roadway

Rose indicated that some of the businesses along Rte 6 are interested in participating but found the price a little high. Cate noted that she is continuing to work on this and is looking for a more economical option.

5. Other Business

- a. **Meeting schedule – The next meeting has been changed to May 2, 2016 at the Community Center at 6:30pm. The meeting will take place prior to the Composting presentation by Steve Silk.**

6. Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:11 pm.

cc: Paula Ray, Town Clerk to post
Kathy Greider, Superintendent of Schools
Chris Fagan, Board of Education
Mary Paganini, Administrative Assistant