

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
September 20, 2016
6:30 p.m.

Present:

In attendance:

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

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

- 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.
Tabled until the October Meeting
- D. Old Business.
 - 1. Solar - Municipal Applicability
 - a. John Vibert has information on five potential vendors. He has spoken with some of them. He noted that Lewis Mills School recently had rooftop panels installed and had worked with Kingspan Solar. Kingspan Solar has been contacting Tim Harris regularly.
 - b. John will follow up with each company to obtain a summary of their qualifications, their process for due diligence, planning, design and installation, and references of work with other municipalities or schools in CT.
 - c. Shannon to check in with Russ regarding the use of each of the former landfill locations as possible solar panel installation locations. Get list of questions or concerns from Russ to be addressed by vendors.
 - 2. Discuss Goals
 - a. Community Pledge
 - o Shannon provided an update to the Committee. One Bright Ideas Grant has been awarded to the Town for our Energy Efficiency Efforts. (\$10,000.00 total) Four Clean Energy System awards have been redeemed with CT Green Bank. (\$18,000.00 total). It is anticipated that the awards will be used for the Municipal Exterior Lighting Project.
 - b. Municipal Exterior Lighting Project

- Shannon provided an update to the Committee regarding the status of the project and the work with Loureiro. The lighting for Union and Noah Wallace School is currently being reviewed by the Architectural Design Review Committee and all sites should be in for permitting with the Town Planning and Zoning Commission in October.
 - 3. Adopt A Roadway – Cate plans to look into other vendors to assist in facilitating this effort.
 - 4. CT Water Planting Area
 - a. Shannon provided an update on the planting area, noting that the last weeding day on September 3rd went well. Also, CT Water, FRWA and NCCD have all been kept up to date on the progress; which may open the door to additional funding next spring.
- E. New Business
1. FRWA – Farmington River Clean Up on Saturday, September 24th
 - a. Cate and Katie will have a sign-in table for volunteers here at the Town Hall lot. Cate noted that most volunteers register ahead of time on-line.
 - b. The group discussed areas in need in case the volunteers need direction: the riverbank behind the former 7-11 in Unionville, the fishing area opposite Walnut St., and riverbank area near the Little League baseball fields.
 2. Unionville Festival on Sunday, September 25th
 - a. Green Efforts is sharing a table with Rose. Table # 168. Set up is from 9am to 11:30am. The Festival runs from noon to 5pm.
 - b. Betty and Katy will be in attendance for the Committee.
 - c. John is donating the use of his compost bin for the day
 - d. Cate to provide ‘give – away’ reusable bags.
 - e. Katy will create display board using pictures from Annual Clean Up day and the Planting Area.
 - f. We will highlight the regular annual volunteer opportunities and the Special Projects that the Committee works on.
 3. Semi-Annual Newsletter
 - a. Cate and Rose will be collaborating on this effort.
 - b. Shannon provided Rose our spreadsheet lists of residents that participated in the Solar Program and the Compost Bin Sale.
 - c. Shannon to continue to work with Kat on an updated logo, then work with Committee to purchase a tablecloth with logo
 4. Meeting Schedule and Focus for 2017
 - a. Meeting Schedule to remain the same – first Tuesday of the month at 6:30pm, with an option to call in
 - b. Focus:
 1. Solar on municipal buildings / properties

2. Annual Clean Up Day – Rose to contact Farmington Bank to coordinate having one of their local shredding events coincide with Clean Up Day on April 29, 2017.
 3. Working with Land Trust and Conservation Commission on Invasive Species Management
 4. Green Circle Sustainability Award for Green Efforts Committee
 5. Monitoring of previous Goals: Community Pledge, Outdoor Lighting
5. Car Charging Stations
- a. Shannon indicated that she had not had an opportunity to follow up on the information provided by Betty.
 - b. Rose indicated that she had participated in the project when Torrington installed some in their downtown area. Rose has a contact at Eversource that she will coordinate with and report back to the group.
6. Membership
- a. All agreed that the two members that do not regularly attend meetings nor participate in the events should be removed from the Committee and replaced. Shannon will draft letters to express this request for John's review and will submit them to the Town Manager and Clerk.

F. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm (Perry/DaCruz)

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