

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
May 2, 2017
6:30 p.m.

Present:

In attendance:

Cate Grady-Benson
Katy Perry
John Vibert

Shannon Rutherford, Assistant Town Planner

5 members of the public joined the meeting, 4 were students

- A. Call to Order – 6:40pm.
- B. Public Comment
None
- C. Administrative / Communications
 - 1. The April 4, 2017 meeting minutes were not approved due to a lack of quorum.
 - 2. Semi-annual Newsletter: Briefly discussed the timing of the next newsletter. Considering June / July.
 - 3. Membership – John following up with an individual that has expressed interest.
 - 4. Green Circle Sustainability Award: Shared email notification that we have been selected as a finalist. The awards ceremony takes place on the afternoon of June 8th.
- D. Energy Conservation
 - a. Old Business
 - 1. Solar – Municipal Buildings and Land – no update
 - 2. Exterior Municipal Lighting Project – The request to select the low bidder will be presented to the Town Council at their next meeting for review and approval.
 - 3. Municipal Car Charging Stations – no update
 - b. New Business
None
- E. Waste Reduction
 - a. Old Business
 - i. Curbside Textile Recycling – Shannon has evaluated the Baystate contract and the Simple Recycling contract. She will present a summary to Russ and Kathy to discuss how to proceed. New Britain and West Hartford are considering moving ahead with Simple Recycling.

- ii. 2017 Annual Clean-Up Day
 1. The participation rate was good at all check-in locations; although the numbers at Tunxis Mead were down a bit compared to previous years.
 2. The total volume of trash picked-up and removed was approaching 4,000 pounds.
 3. The winners of the Heaviest Haul competition will be formally announced by the Committee later this month.
 4. The discussion turned to how to improve attendance and participation next year. Suggestions included:
 - a. Create an 'Adopt a Spot' list / database for individuals / families and businesses.
 - b. Solicit businesses to see if they will 'Adopt' their roadway frontages.
 - c. Send a mailing to businesses and civic groups in February.
 - d. Provide a 'Clean-up Day' T-shirt to those that sign-up in advance and show up to participate. (discussion included shirt design and logo)
 - e. Consider moving to the previous weekend in April to coincide with Earth Day.

- iii. 2017 Compost Bin / Rain Barrel Sale
 1. The 4 sets of bins / barrels were received the week of April 24th and were distributed by Highway and Grounds to each of the Clean-Up Day check in locations.
 2. There will be a set on display at Town Hall in the lobby, a set at Jill Jarrett's farm stand, and a set at Sub-Edge farm. There will be flyers with each set that includes all of the sales information.
 3. A set with flyers will be on display at the May Market at the Hill Stead Museum the weekend of May 6th.
 4. The flyer has been posted in all of the school Friday folders, on the main page of the Town website, the Green Efforts page of the website and on the Committee's Facebook page.
 5. Cate Grady-Benson will look at getting the flyer posted to the Land Trust's Facebook page.
 6. Other possible opportunities: announcement in Farmington Valley Press, email distribution through FRWA

- iv. DEEP Dive – SMART waste reduction – evaluating grants for continuing to Phase 2

- F. Open Space Management / Invasive Species Reduction
 - a. Old Business
 - i. CT Water Planting Area Update: Weeding Day – May 6th 8AM to 11 AM; Planting Day is May 9th.
 - b. New Business

G. Committee Logo – no update

Adjourn 8:15 pm

cc: Kathy Eagen, Town Manager
Kathy Greider, Superintendent of Schools
Chris Fagan, Board of Education
Tim Harris, Director of School Facilities
Mary Paganini, Administrative Assistant
Rose Ponte, Director of Economic Development
Russ Arnold, Director of Public Works
Erica Robertson, Assistant Town Manager