

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 13, 2017
6:30 p.m.

Present:

In attendance:

Betty DaCruz
Cate Grady-Benson
Katy Perry

Shannon Rutherford, Assistant Town Planner

1 member of the public joined the meeting – John Tucker

- A. Call to Order – 6:40pm.
- B. Public Comment
None
- C. Administrative / Communications
 - 1. The June 6, 2017 meeting minutes were not approved due to a lack of quorum.
 - 2. Semi-annual Newsletter: no update
 - 3. Unionville Festival – September 24th, noon to 4:30pm
 - a. The Committee has been registered for the Festival. Shannon will request confirmation and table location information. (Table 196)
 - b. Katy is going to check at home for the board / sign they used last year. She has a table cloth that can be used as well.
 - c. The Festival will be used to launch the 'Adopt a Spot' program for cleaning up Farmington. This will tie to the Annual Clean Up Day. {Shannon to work with our IT department to see if a Google map can be added to the Green Efforts website to track this.}
 - d. Shannon to print a 24 x 36 sheet of the Town of Farmington map. The map will be mounted to a foam presentation board. Katy and Cate will use pins to mark where people have committed to keeping areas (trails, parks, river banks, roadsides, etc.) clean and litter free.
 - e. Other items to be included for the table:
 - i. Picture(s) of trash from the 2017 Clean-Up Day (Katy shared the Litterati app. that tracks trash collection world-wide.)
 - ii. Invasive Species Education board – knotweed, barberry and bittersweet samples
 - iii. Shannon to check with Scott to see if a Green Efforts sign is stored at the highway dept.
 - iv. 1 compost bin and rain barrel – Shannon to coordinate with Scott, Katy to pick up from Highway and Grounds. Shannon to print compost bin / rain barrel flyer from the 2017 sale.

f. Attendees: Katy can be there all day. Cate and John Tucker indicated they can likely be there for part of the day.

D. Energy Conservation

a. Old Business

1. Solar – Municipal Buildings and Land – no update. Katy noted that Miss Porter's is working on adding solar to their pool building. She will ask Katie Bradley if she would be interested in speaking with our group about the process Miss Porter's went through to select and have the panels installed.
2. Exterior Municipal Lighting Project – Work is well underway at the schools and town hall. Completion expected this fall. Shannon to work with finance department to track energy / cost reduction.
3. Street Lighting Project – Shannon provided an update regarding the status of the project. We are currently in the review phase of the design plans and working with Eversource regarding the purchase.
4. Municipal Car Charging Stations – no update.

b. New Business

None

E. Waste Reduction

a. Old Business

- i. Curbside Textile Recycling – Shannon met with Kathy, Russ and Scott in May. No further update. Cate suggested some of the additional research could be done by the committee. Shannon to review notes and discuss options next month.
- ii. 2017 Annual Clean-Up Day
 1. We discussed the ability to coordinate clean-up day prior to spring mowing efforts by highway and grounds. We concluded that due to the seasonal / weather related impacts to the mowing schedule it would be impossible to coordinate clean-up day to occur consistently prior to mowing.
 2. As an alternative, Shannon will remain in contact with Scott in the spring and try to get a one to two week lead to the mowing efforts. This will allow the Committee time to alert the 'Adopt a Spot' teams and see if they can do an early clean-up.
 3. The Committee agreed to the above approach and agreed to leave Clean-up day occurring on the same day as the Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day. Tentatively scheduled for April 21, 2018.
 4. Trash bags for the clean-up day collection are running low. Shannon to check with the Finance Dept. regarding funds available in the Town Wide Cleanup Account and the Green Efforts Account.
 5. In addition to purchasing additional trash bags the committee would like to purchase t-shirts for the volunteers – something that is brightly colored due to the roadside work that many do. The committee discussed perhaps getting a corporate sponsor for the shirts and

printing the sponsor name on the back and Farmington Green Efforts Committee Volunteer on the front.

6. We discussed the possibility of having a rain date. In the end the logistics of volunteer coordination and town staffing will not work for a rain date.
7. In an effort to provide some flexibility to the competition the collection date will be expanded and include all trash collected in the month of April through the Clean-up day event. This may allow for greater participation among businesses and civic organizations.
8. We discussed the prizes. We agreed that since most awards go to groups of people rather than individuals the nature of prizes currently is appropriate – mostly food related.

iii. 2017 Compost Bin / Rain Barrel Sale

1. We discussed possibly moving to a sale every other year. We agreed to revisit after the Unionville Festival to see if there was any interest in the bin / barrel.
2. Katy noted that Miss Porter's is moving to a contracted composting system at the cafeteria. Katy will ask Katie Bradley if she is interested in coming to speak to the Committee about this contract – how it is working, pluses / minuses, etc.

iv. DEEP Dive – SMART waste reduction – no update

F. Open Space Management / Invasive Species Reduction

a. Old Business

- i. CT Water Planting Area Update: weeding day – September 16th

b. New Business

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