



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

March 1, 2022

Online Zoom Conference

7:00 p.m.

Voting Members

In Attendance:

Johnny Carrier, Chair
Patti Boye-Williams
Cate Grady-Benson
Stacey Petruzella
John Vibert
Jennifer Wynn

Absent:

Levi Whitcomb

Non-Voting Members

Sam Kilpatrick, BOE Facilities Director
Shannon Rutherford, Town Planner
Garrett Daigle, Assistant Town Planner

Guest: Sierra Drevline, Victor Morrone

- A. Call to Order** -The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.
- B. Public Comment**- none
- C. Presentation**- None
- D. Administrative / Communications**
 - 1. Grady-Benson/ Petruzella / 5-0, –February 1, 2022, meeting minutes as presented.
(Jennifer Wynn arrived following the vote)
- E. Public Education Goal**
 - 1. Anti-Idling: Sam Kilpatrick and Cate Grady-Benson are working with Westwoods school students to develop signage to discourage idling at loading and drop-off areas. DEEP provided 8 signs for the schools, 7 will be installed at each loading

dock of the schools. The town did receive additional signs, and the committee discussed placing them at Tunxis Meade and the little league fields. An article about the effects of idling was published in the Winter town newsletter.

2. Action Items:

- 1) Sam and Cate to continue to follow up with Tara Vazquez at Westwoods School.

F. Waste Reduction Goal

1. Simple Recycling update

- 1) In 2021, Farmington recycled 21.275 tons of textiles, and a total of 49 tons since the program started in 2019.

2. Discuss 2022 Clean Up Day April 23, 2022

- 1) Stacey Petruzella is looking into a town wide tag sale the day of the cleanup and at a location to be determined. She will put out a poll on Facebook to seek if residents would be interested in participating. Chris Loomis at FHS indicated he should be able to arrange for student volunteers to assist with the tag sale. The flyer is being worked on and the committee is looking to continue the "Heaviest Hauler" competition, the committee plans to move the town hall / library collection site to Irving A. Robbins Middle Schools. Stacey has submitted the building use form to IAR.
- 2) Cate Grady-Benson is working on gifts for the Heaviest Hauler competition. Gifts are typically gift cards to local restaurants. She welcomes assistance on this endeavor; but asks that members coordinate with her; so multiple members aren't contacting the same establishments.
- 3) Cate Grady-Benson has reached out to Ron Goralski to coordinate participation from Bicycle Friendly Farmington / Bicycle Advisory Committee to clean along the trails. John Vibert indicated that the trails are usually fairly clean as various groups are assigned to patrol certain areas of the trail. Ron Goralski and the BFF/ BAC volunteers will volunteer at the Tunxis Meade cleanup day location.
- 4) Cate Grady-Benson will work with Garrett Daigle to purchase trash bags for the event.

3. Discussion on Composting

- 1) The committee discussed next steps following the presentations at the February meeting. Cate Grady-Benson indicated that she had met with Samuel King of Blue Earth Composting, and Tara Vazquez from Westwoods schools. Tara is looking to start a composting pilot program at the school as early as the fall. Samuel King will put Cate and Tara in contact with a representative from the Canton school district, who are currently



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composting with Blue Earth. The committee would like staff to explore the possibility of a town wide composting program.

G. Other Business

1. Discussion on EV Charging Station

- 1) Staff presented on the program currently being offered by Eversource to install EV Chargers. Eversource will cover up to \$20,000.00 of the installation and make ready costs, and 50% of the cost of a qualifying Level 2 charger. Staff asked for committee input on the potential location of the charger. The committee believes the Town Hall or the Library would be good locations. Staff will discuss with the Town Managers office and the Public Works Director, prior to exploring quotes for installation. Sierra Drevline spoke on her experiences with availability of chargers currently.

H. Adjournment – Grady-Benson/ Boye-Williams , all – to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm