



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**  
October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022  
Online Zoom Conference  
7:00 p.m.

Voting Members

In Attendance:

Johnny Carrier, Chair  
Patti Boye-Williams  
Cate Grady Benson  
Stacey Petruzella  
Talia Stigliano

Absent:

Jennifer Wynn  
John Vibert

Non-Voting Members:

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

Guests:

Himani Kumar  
Leah Gichuru

- A. Call to Order** –The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm.
- B. Guest Speaker – Himani Kumar FHS Student – UCONN Student Environmental Action Project.**  
Himani Kumar is a Farmington Highschool Sophomore who is participating in the UCONN Natural Resources Conservation Academy’s Conservation Ambassador Program. Himani is looking to partner with the Green Efforts Committee to establish a composting program for residents of Farmington. Himani discussed her interest in Environmental action. Staff will coordinate with Himani.
- C. Public Comment-** none
- D. Presentation-** None
- E. Administrative / Communications**
1. Boye-Williams/ Petruzella / 5-0, September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022, meeting minutes with corrections:
    - 1) Item G.2.1 should read “Garrett Daigle has been contacted by a resident about establishing a native lawn, which *appears not to be currently* permitted by town ordinance.”

**F. Public Education Goal**

1. Anti-Idling: Cate Grady Benson stated that there is a printing shop lined up to create the anti-idling posters made by the students of West Woods School, however the committee is waiting on approval from Superintendent Greider. Patti Boye-Williams will mention the signs at the next Board of Education meeting.
2. Discussion on Black Plastics  
The committee discussed submitting an article about black plastics for the winter town newsletter, the committee has contacted DEEP for a more information about the inability to recycle black plastics. Staff will reach out again to get more information. The committee may also post a notice to the town website to remind people.

**G. Waste Reduction Goal**

1. Simple Recycling update  
Assistant Town Planner Garrett Daigle provided an update to the committee on the latest totals. Patti Boye-Williams gave the committee some background on how the program works, what items are accepted, and how the items are reused or recycled. The committee discussed including information about Simple Recycling in the winter newsletter, to remind residents of the program, and how to schedule a pickup of textiles.
2. Discussion on Composting  
Cate Grady Benson has been working with Tara Vazquez at West Woods School. Due to some staffing changes at the school, there is a delay in getting the program started.
3. Discussion on Littering Signs  
The committee discussed the addition of littering signs North of the Farmington Polo Grounds to the Avon Town Line. Garrett shared the town ordinance regarding littering. The committee discussed several options to address the litter, including strong signs, a smaller fall town clean up, and adopt a mile/street program involving local businesses. Some members believe the committee discussed this several years ago, and staff will review the minutes from previous meetings.

**H. Other Business**

1. EV Charger
  - 1) Garrett Daigle is waiting on a quote from the contractor to install a charger in the library parking lot. The committee asked if any chargers will be included with the new high school, Sam Kilpatrick indicated he is working with Eversource on programs to include chargers as part of the construction.



*Minutes are considered "Draft" until approved by the Committee. Please contact the Planning and Zoning Office for a copy of final minutes.*

2. Discussion on Native Lawns
  - 1) The committee continued its discussion on native lawns. Garrett Daigle shared the existing town ordinance on property conditions and vegetation, and an example ordinance from Stamford, CT, who has recently adopted a meadow lawn exemption to their property maintenance ordinance. The committee discussed the benefit of an ordinance revision, the ability to enforce the ordinance, guidelines for establishing a native lawn. Garrett Daigle also discussed a possible registration form to be filed with the Department of Public Works on a regular basis to ensure compliance with the potential ordinance.

*Cate Grady Benson left at 8:03*

- I. **Adjournment** – Petruzella/Boye-Williams, 4-0 – to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm