

**ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMISSION**

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IN NEWINGTON, CT

**Town of Newington, Connecticut**

2021 JUL -7 AM 8:31

Special Meeting Minutes of June 17, 2021

  
Town Clerk

1. The regular meeting was held using Zoom platform and was called to order at 6:34 p.m.
2. Roll Call- Commissioners present: Joyce Boncal, Patty Foley, Karen Serio, and Joe Trombetta  
Town Council Liaisons: Chris Miner, Gail Budrejko  
Staff present: Robert Hillman and Renata Bertotti
3. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
4. Approval of minutes- Approved as amended
5. Public Participation- None
6. Old Business-
  - A. Sustainable CT- Chairperson Foley mentioned the deadline of July 31<sup>st</sup> will not happen this year as two major requirements of attending an equity seminar and having equity applied to an action will not be completed by the deadline. She reiterated 200 points are needed for bronze and this point we fall short of that. She also mentioned the time needed to dedicate to process may be more than a volunteer group is capable of commenting. Many towns have a full time staff member coordinate the process. Foley mentioned attaining the award is important for managing society, the environment and sustainable development.  
Councilor Budrejko commented the town has an invested in sustainability. The chairperson stated unfortunately most of the items where done in the past and cannot be used to receive points.
  - B. Facebook- Chairperson Foley said the page has received 122 likes and has 127 followers. The Keep Newington litter free group has 123 followers
  - C. Upcycling Contest- Commissioner Boncal said the overall she was pleased with how the contest went. There were 14 entries, 13 under personal/family and 1 under business/non-profit. Two judges have submitted score sheets and is waiting on one judge to submit theirs.  
  
There will be two \$100 gift cards awarded to the winners. All entrants will receive a certificate of participation.  
  
The award ceremony will be held in the Council Chambers room 103 at 7:00 on a date to be determined.  
  
The Town clerk will post pdf's of the entrant's submission on the town website.

Councilor Budrejko mentioned possibly doing something next year in conjunction with the high school as she believe they do something similar.

D. Condominium letter- Serio reached out to the 40 condominium complexes in April with the commissions recycling reminder. To date she has not received a response form any. Foley and Serio mentioned they live in condominiums and have not received anything regrading her email.

E. Positions open on Commission- Currently there are three positions open. Chairperson Foley hopes to be able to fill the open positions.

F. Girl Scouts- no updates

G. School Poster Contest- Serio mentioned October is Energy Month and hopes to do a poster contest at that time in conjunction with Earth Day's theme "Restore our Earth". Councilor Budrejko mentioned possibly having an essay contest for those that may not be artistic.

H. Highway Dept- Mattress recycling- Mr. Hillman stated the program is up and running and is waiting the monthly report to see how many units where recycled in May.

Foley asked Mr. Hillman to look into when Simple Recycling would resume the textile pick up.

Councilor Miner asked Mr. Hillman to look into Blue Earth Composting.

## 7. New Business-

A. Communications/ Education on Reducing, Reusing, and Recycling- Nothing to report

## 8. Public Participation- None

## 9. Commissioner Comments-

Commissioner Trombetta liked the way the commsioOn was headed

Boncal said she looked forward to the Upcycling award ceremony

Commissioner Serio wished all the fathers a happy Father's Day.

Councilor Budrejko commended Boncal on her efforts thought out the contest.

## 10. Staff Comments-

Mr. Hillman – None

Mrs. Bertotti- None

11. Adjournment- Next regular meeting is scheduled for July 8th at 6:30 p.m. Motion made by Commissioner Boncal to adjourn the meeting at 8:06 p.m., seconded by Commissioner Trombetta passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted

Robert Hillman

Assistant Highway Superintendent