

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes of September 10th, 2020

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1. The meeting was called to order at 6:31 P.M.
2. Roll Call- Members present: Joyce Boncal, Patty Foley, Karen Serio, Joe Trombetta, Councilor Budrejko Staff present: Robert Hillman
5. Approval of minutes-
Approved minor changes
6. Public Participation-
None
7. Old Business-
 - A. Sustainable CT- Chairperson Foley mentioned there was a litter pick up organized by a resident in which 20 people attended. The plan is to hold the event on a monthly basis. This event satisfies section 7.1 section of Sustainable CT. Commissioner Serio discussed the equity tool kit (section 9.1) and how it should be inclusive of everyone. The chairperson asked her to reach out to other towns' to see what they have done in regards to satisfying the requirements. The chairperson commented the Conservation Commission with be discussing a study of invasive plants in CT which may satisfy section 10.1 of Sustainable CT. The members of the EQC where invited to the September 15th meeting.
 - B. Facebook- Chairperson continues to post information.
 - C. Challenge to reduce garbage- The Chairperson attended a webinar held by the CT Coalition for Sustainable Material Management. The discussion revolved around the need to reduce trash as the state's option for incinerating garbage are diminishing as the infrastructure ages. The need to divert the waste through reuse or recycling will be even more necessary as the faculties continue to age.
 - D. Submission Date for Newington Sustainable CT- August 2021- The Chairperson wanted to remind the commission members of the submission date.
7. New Business-
 - A. Communications/ Education on Reducing, Reusing, Recycling- Commissioner Boncal developed a preliminary set of criteria for the upcycling contest. She will send her list to commission members. Boncal will also submit a press release to staff and the chairperson to be posted as a news flash on the town's website and newspapers.
 - B. Position open- Commissioner Serio asked for clarity on the two seats for industry representatives. The chairperson read the definition to clarify. Councilor Budrejko mentioned in the early days of the commission when the main focus was underground fuel tank's the industry reps where important. Now that the commission has evolved the need my no longer be there. The Chairperson will look into amending the representatives on the commission.

8. Public Participation-

None

9. Commissioner comments-

Boncal commented she would get the press release out to the chair

Councilor Budrejko mentioned it may be worth looking into the POCD to see if that satisfies any requirements of Sustainable CT

10. Staff comments-

Staff commented on how the MDC hazardous waste event was a success and would get the data out to the commission once it is received.

11. Adjournment-

Meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted



Robert Hillman

Assistant Highway Superintendent