

**ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMISSION**

**Town of Newington, Connecticut**

Meeting Minutes of October 8, 2020

~~REVISED~~

RECEIVED FOR RECORD  
IN NEWINGTON, CT

2020 NOV -4 AM 10: 44

*Adrian O. Kypel*  
Town Clerk

1. The regular meeting was held using Zoom platform and was called to order at 6:31 p.m.
2. Roll Call- Commissioners present: Joyce Boncal, Patty Foley, Karen Serio, and Joe Trombetta  
Town Council Liaisons: present Councilor Gail Budrejko; absent Councilor Chris Miner  
Staff present: Robert Hillman
3. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
4. Approval of minutes- Commissioner Boncal offered the following correction to the minutes of the September 10, 2020 meeting that 7. New Business A. "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."

**Motion** by Commissioner Serio to accept the minutes with the correction, seconded by Commissioner Boncal and approved unanimously.

5. Public Participation- None
6. Old Business-

A. Sustainable CT- Chairperson Foley mentioned CPTV in conjunction with Sustainable CT made a video Re:Source:Ful, Growing Sustainable Communities. Go to our Facebook page, Keep Newington Litter Free, for the link. She mentioned the resignation of the Andrew Armstrong, our point man for Newington's Sustainable Team. She has a meeting with the Town Manager to discuss his replacement. Chairperson Foley is also working on an event with the Library that would possibly allow them to show films online and create a book/resource list of materials in the collection to educate on recycling and sustainability.

B. Facebook- Chairperson Foley thanked Commissioner Serio for being active on the page.

C. Challenge to reduce garbage- Sustainable CT 7.5- Chairperson Foley discussed how the Town could receive points regarding recycling for the following: identify a contact person, complete worksheet on per capita MSW and post information, information must be made available to public i.e. Town website. Town can also earn points for reducing disposal by ten percent. Commissioners discussed ways to communicate to residents on how to reduce trash such as flyers to school children. Commissioner Serio will reach out condominium associations with the help of staff to educate on recycling. Commissioner Trombetta mentioned a billboard, flyers at Parks & Rec, and Library.

D. Upcycling contest- Commissioner Boncal read two definitions of Upcycling for the commission to discuss. The Commissioners decided the shorter description was the better. She will draft a definition and forward to everyone. She also asked if we could get others involved to assist with planning the event, possibly other commissions or volunteers.

E. Positions open on Commission- Councilor Budrejko questioned whether the need for an industry seat is still warranted based on what the Commission's charge as other departments oversee chemical handling within the town as well as DEEP. The Commissioners agreed and will bring this information to the Council's attention to amend the Commission's membership. The Town Clerk forwarded the Commission's adoption resolution and Town Council meeting minutes to the Commissioners for their review.

7. New Business-

A. Communications/ Education on Reducing, Reusing, and Recycling- Chairperson Foley mentioned there is new category on Sustainable CT regarding homelessness when she has more information she will pass it along to the Commissioners.

8. Public Participation- None

9. Commissioner comments-

Commissioner Serio will be looking forward the contact information for the condominiums.

Commissioner Boncal reiterated she would come up with a definition for Upcycling and would like to reach out to other commissions to help with the contest.

Commissioner Trombetta asked about the definition of "value". Commissioner Boncal responded that upcycling does improve the value.

Councilor Budrejko stated she was happy with the direction the Commission is heading.

10. Staff comments-

Mr. Hillman said he would provide Commissioner Serio a list of management company contacts for the condominiums in Town.

11. Adjournment- Next regular meeting is scheduled for November 12th at 6:30 p.m. **Motion** made by Commissioner Trombetta to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m., seconded by Commissioner Serio, passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted

*Robert Hillman*

Robert Hillman

Assistant Highway Superintendent