

**Weston Sustainability Committee  
Monthly Meeting Minutes (draft)**

March 12, 2019, 7:30 pm

Town Hall Annex

Attendees:

Jens Buettner	Member, Sustainable Weston
Ken Coulson	Member, Sustainable Weston
Marc de Mul	Secretary, Sustainable Weston
Kelvin Donovan	Student Member, Sustainable Weston
Tiffany Donovan	Alternate Member, Sustainable Weston
Amy Kalafa	Chair, Sustainable Weston
Larry Shore	Weston resident
Eric Shrago	Alternate Member, Sustainable Weston
Sonia Skindrud	Weston resident, liaison to Sustainable Fairfield County
Tom Socha	Member, Sustainable Weston
Collin Socha	Student Member, Sustainable Weston
Bonnie Troy	Co-chair, Sustainable Weston

Not attending:

Kirby Brendsel	Member, Sustainable Weston
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Amy opened meeting at 7:32 PM.

1. Ken moved to approve minutes, Tom seconded, approved unanimously.

2. Recycling Event Debrief (all)

We received good feedback on the event

Tiffany/Kelvin will do a writeup for our newsletter

Onion Barn as recycling receptacle; can there be a recycling receptacle in Weston Center

Jens: thinks that the event was not well attended

Bonnie: thinks that we need to personally talk to people to get attendance

Tiffany: found that handing out postcards at Peter's worked well

Amy: we need to start communication early for next event

3. Weekend table debrief (Marc, Larry, Tiffany, Eric)

Having the table at Peter's Market was successful in engaging people; we sold several reusable Weston-branded bags.

Peter's Market still gives out plastic bags; they are finishing stock

Tom: Peter's is planning to make his own bag; likes the Weston bag

The bags should be sold for \$10 each; our cost is just under \$5

Peter's is selling the bags for \$5 but we are not receiving that money.

We agreed to form a marketing subcommittee to manage marketing and communication in the town center. Tom, Marc, and Ken volunteered.

#### 4. Election of Treasurer

We agreed that we need a treasurer now that we are spending and collecting money, to keep track of funds and to provide transparency to the community. Eric Shrago volunteered and was elected treasurer of the committee. The treasurer should liaison with town on the Sustainable Weston bank account, keep track of expenses and income, and find out what methods of payment we can accept.

#### 5. Sustainable CT - categories / choose leads for each (Eric)

Ken and Amy prepared a tracking worksheet for SustainableCT activities, which is on the Google Drive; Amy will send a link to Google Drive.

There are [many categories of activities](#) under SustainableCT. According to Amy, we have the points for Bronze certification but we need to find the data to document the actions.

Jens questioned the benefit to the town in obtaining certification. According to Eric, there may be future grants or funding that will be based on certification. Kelvin thought that it benefits all towns to work together.

Eric stated that the other towns that were certified are significantly larger and have more support staff. However, there is a benefit to smaller towns such as Weston because SustainableCT is meant to start conversations and to guide progress to becoming more sustainable.

Amy suggested that we all research SustainableCT and vote in our next meeting on whether it is worth our time. Eric said that there may be interns to help again this year; for our next meeting Eric will invite someone from another town who worked on certification, and/or someone from SustainableCT.

Amy thinks that we can also work with the high school to engage students.

#### 6. Next Event - (May 4) Pesticide Awareness and Organic Landcare (Bonnie/Amy)

We agreed on May 4 as the date for the next event on Pesticide Awareness and Organic Landcare. We formed a subcommittee for event planning; Tiffany, Sonia, Bonnie, Tom, and Ken volunteered.

Amy will find out how many people we can have in a subcommittee before it becomes a quorum and would count as a regular committee meeting.

#### 7. Communications: Newsletter (Kelvin / Tiffany)

Items for the newsletter are marketing the Onion Barn; recap of our event; and a reminder on the no idling law in CT

#### 8. Green Leaf schools update (Collin)

March 15: school strikes worldwide over climate change; Weston schools won't strike but Kelvin and Collin will have an informational campaign

#### 9. Other items –

Transfer station hours changes (Jens): Jens thinks that the proposed shorter hours are an inconvenience; there is a petition people can sign to express opposition.

Reduction of Road Salts (Marc): postponed to next meeting

Aquarion (Eversource) Scheme to Export 1 million gallons of water/day from a well in nearby Cannondale, Wilton. (Harvey Bellin): postponed to next meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 9:23 PM.

Next meeting is April 9.