

## Weston Sustainability Committee

### Minutes to Monthly Meeting October 2, 2019

Weston Public Library Meeting Room A

#### Attendees:

Kirby Brendsel	Member
Marc de Mul	Secretary
Sarah Hutchison	Alternate Member
Kelvin Green	Student Member
Tiffany Green	Alternate Member
Amy Kalafa	Chair
Eric Shrago	Member
Sonia Skindrud	Member
Tom Socha	Member

#### Not attending:

Collin Socha	Student Member
Bonnie Troy	Co-chair

Meeting called to order at 7:46 PM.

The minutes to the September meeting were unanimously approved.

1. Sustainable Connecticut application. The reviewing team had several requests for additional documentation. Eric provided additional documents to the Sustainable CT team, Kirby will send information to Eric. We need 200 points and we should be able to document a sufficient number of points. The deadline for submission is Friday October 4. We should hear in November whether we have reached Bronze certification.
2. The sustainability committee in the schools is starting up. There haven't been any meetings yet. Tom: one or more Sustainable Weston members will be able to join this committee.
3. BOS recycling initiatives.
  - a. Food scrap recycling at transfer station did not work in Fairfield, but will be revisited. Curbside Compost and Action Compost Collection are two possible contractors for food scrap collection. If Weston does this at the transfer station, there would need to be a fee per bag. Wilton and Westport have working systems in their school systems.
  - b. Textiles collection – there are collection bins at the transfer station. A collection service would need to be set up.
  - c. Paint recycling – can be done at the hazardous waste collection days in October and April. Only solvent-based paint is considered hazardous waste (to be confirmed).
  - d. Mattress collection would work similarly to electronics recycling. Perhaps the Kiwanis or a similar organization would do e.g. 2x yearly pickup.

- e. Single use plastic recycling will need some more research.
- 4. Planning and Zoning POCD (Plan of Conservation & Development) update – the committee is invited to an October 7 @7:15 PM meeting with the P&Z commission (Town Hall Annex Conference Room). We want to discuss building standards.
- 5. Farmland strip with pollinator: Michelle Fracasso (Lachat) will brief committee.
- 6. Restaurant take out bags – other towns are not charging for paper take out bags, so Weston does not need to review this with local restaurants.
- 7. Electric school buses contract with First Student was renewed for 5 years in June. Buses are supplied by First Student. Sonia will try to have an electric school bus on site for the Climate Reality Event.
- 8. Climate Reality Event on November 20 – Tiffany needs the event information and a blurb for the newsletter, Tom and Collin should have this information. Sonia: we should promote this in the school newsletters, Marc: it should go on the Weston Today calendar. Tiffany: needs more content for the newsletter.
- 9. Priorities for 2019-20.
  - a. Air quality improvement: reduce emissions from lawn care and school buses
  - b. Renewable energy for home heating as well as solar
  - c. Eliminate Styrofoam use (it was [recently banned in Norwalk](#))
  - d. Reducing pesticide use in land care
  - e. Drinking water quality: should we test for more toxins (uranium, arsenic, pharmaceuticals, microplastics, ...)

Meeting adjourned at 9:14 PM. The next meeting will be on November 13 at 7:30 PM.