

Weston Sustainability Committee
Meeting Minutes 3-29-11

Attendees:

Members-Deirdre Doran, David Wilk, Ellen McCormick, Phoebe Cole-Smith, Lou Dempsey, Clem Butt Absent: Don Kendall

Guests- Helen Dekeijzer, Harvey and April Bellin, Valerie Mason-Finegan
Deirdre announced that Ellen was sworn in (replacing Eileen Kaufman).

Meeting was called to order at 7:39 PM.

Minutes

Minutes from 3/8/11 meeting were approved as amended. The vote was unanimous.
Minutes from 2/22/11 minutes were approved unanimously.

Announcements:

Deirdre discussed the meeting contract as an outline to facilitate a more productive meetings.

Meeting Contract

Establish objectives of the meeting

- what are we trying to achieve during this time
- what are the specific goals
- what do we want to leave the meeting with

Identify the length of the meeting (max 2 hours!)

- be sensitive to time
- use the time effectively
- check on the time throughout to ensure schedule

Encourage participation

- encourage opinions which should be pointed and with a purpose
- suggest others refrain from commenting until all ideas have been proposed
- address disagreements constructively

Select appropriate people to be in meeting

- encourage subcommittees to meet, communicate and then present findings/recommendations to committee.
- encourage teams to take action in some way so they move projects forward

Recap meeting

- issue recap after meeting with specific action points!
- make sure to copy people that need to know what happened but weren't in meeting

Old Business:

Lou reviewed the goals and objectives for 2011. They are to focus on Recycling, Food/Farming and Education. Subcommittees of each were established. They are: Recycling: Lou, Valerie, Clem; Food/Farming: Phoebe Cole-Smith and Ellen McCormick; Education: David Wilk and Deirdre Doran. These subcommittees will communicate separately within each subcommittee and will report discussions to the Sustainability Committee at regular meetings.

The goal for the Recycling Subcommittee is to produce a pamphlet that incorporates the goals of a comprehensive recycling plan for Weston residents to follow. (Refer to Valerie's goals which she had produced for the meeting.)

The Weston *Neighbor to Neighbor Challenge* Launch will be 4/30 from 10-11 in the Community Room of the Library.

Lou reviewed the State N2N launch he attended in Hartford.

Phoebe reviewed Weston GVI meeting: highlight was the creation of a garden at Weston Historical Society and discussion of Jarvis as an educational exhibit location.

David reviewed speaker series:

4/3/11 Anna Lappe will speak at the Unitarian Church in Westport at 1:00. Local organic soup and bread will be served. This is co-sponsored with GVI.

5/3/11 Phoebe has three local farmers who will speak at The Grange. Time 7 PM.

Clem discussed Ticks/Lyme disease and described what he learned from a conversation with Yale about the experimental spraying of Bifenthrin. Orkin is the vendor chosen for the spraying. Ellen and Deirdre will write an editorial for The Forum outlining our thoughts on the matter. Deirdre and David will discuss the matter further in a conversation with Yale, WWHD, Center for Disease Control and area experts. They will also communicate with the Board of Selectmen.

America Speaks is still in discussions with Lou and Don.

New Business:

Website is up and running and the Mission Statement has been approved and is on the website.

www.sustainableweston.org

Recap:

Subcommittees to produce goals at next meeting

David Wilk moved to adjourn. Lou seconded. It passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned 9:25 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Lou Dempsey

Secretary