



TOWN OF WAKEFIELD

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

Monday, November 12, 2020
5:00 P.M.
Zoom Meeting #970 9792 2994

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Rob Darnell, Chair
Robin Greenberg, Recording Secretary
Myra Sessions
Tom Boettcher, WMGLD rep
Julie Smith-Galvin, Town Council rep
Suzy Veilleux, School Committee rep
Mary Hajjar, Vice Chair
Addie Festel, Student Liaison
Sophie Brown, Student Liaison

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Cameron Sweeney, Student Liaison
Liz Sheridan, Student Liaison
Joe Conway, DPW rep (voting rep)
Ann Waitt, DPW rep

----- TOPICS OF DISCUSSION -----

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m by R. Darnell.

Public Participation

Carol Zoubek wanted to congratulate the ESC on the successful passing of the town warrants. She would like to see a donation systems be established to support businesses if they experience additional costs while implementing the changes.

Robert Votli asked about the protocol to collect donations. Could it be via ESC, Sustainable Wakefield or other avenue? R. Darnell suggested that he discuss the matter with Robert offline. Robert also asked about status of following up on other questions raised at Town Meeting, i.e. how to help businesses? What have other towns done?

Approval of Minutes Town Warrants

Approval of prior meeting minutes was tabled for next meeting.

Articles 8 and 9 passed in Town Meeting.

J. Smith-Galvin discussed with Town Administrator about next steps about the changes today. Town Communications Director is working on a letter and developing package to local businesses on the changes, i.e. potential on alternatives, bunk purchase options, etc. The town hopes to send out in January 2021.

ESC discusses some impacts to the articles. T. Boettcher noted that he didn't think about the impact to rare meat packaging with the change. R. Greenberg agreed but noted that it is limited to what is packaged at the Wakefield location and therefore was is affected to the article. R. Darnell and J. Smith-Galvin tried to talk Farmland's manager prior to TM without success. They did talk with Carvings and



the impact to their containers. ESC will look at tray options for meat, etc with assistance from Town Public Health office to make sure that food safety issues are addressed.

J. Smith-Galvin suggested that the ESC write a letter to the Item with more info on the changes, thank the town for support articles, address efforts to work with local businesses, explain why the changes are good for Wakefield residents and businesses, transition period for compliances availability, and note public's suggestions on how to implement. J. Smith-Galvin and M. Sessions will work on letter and R. Darnell as chair will sign it on behalf of ESC.

Melissa noted that Melrose went door-to-door to businesses with info on alternatives.

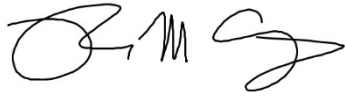
Pumpkin Drop	The pumpkin collection filled a Green Earth truck, approximately ~2,000 pounds. The reduced collection was speculated as a result of having the collection too close to Halloween and less schools going to school in person. People were not ready to compost their pumpkins. The date will be reevaluated for next year.
Student Liaison	M. Session is working on draft and is looking for clarification on meeting dates and times. Committee agreed that typical meetings on 2 nd Thursday at 7pm each month. The deadline for responses will be January 4, 2021. The ad will note that one or more students will be selected by ESC. Appicates will be sent to Sherri Dalton.
Trash Reduction	R. Darnell reported that DPW is working on RFP on town composting and the town is still working on recycling RFP.
Green Communities Act	J. Smith-Galvin shared that the town is creating a working group for the GCA effort for the Spring Town Meeting (TM) warrants. It is expected to be formed November/December and start in January. J. Smith-Galvin noted that the zoning overlay rule is already provided in the town's zoning and so does not need to be presented and approved at TM. The only issue to be presented and requested approval is on the Stretch Code.
Land Protection	M. Hajjar continues to work with Judy Green, Con Comm's secretary on understanding available "tax title land" in town, i.e. Town Forest, wetland lots, etc. The topic of Land Trust may be a future ConComm seminar. The Butler Ave property, discussed at fall TM, had been previously discussed as having a wildlife corridor with previous private owner.
Plastic Bag Collection	Plastic bag collection is currently stated to end December 1 st , the end date of the bench program. R. Darnell is expecting that the town will reach the 2,000lb goal by Monday, November 16 th . R. Darnell is asking Home Depot if they will still collect beyond the Tryex bench collection bench ends. T. Boettcher suggested signage on the benches explaining their origins a recycled bags/plastic. J. Smith-Galvin noted

	that town will be accepting the benches as a gift and will need to follow public rules accordingly.
Safe Streets Group	J. Smith-Galvin shared that the group has a planning session on Nov 17 th for their Nov 24 th meeting. At the Nov 24 th meeting, VHB will be speaking to group about their current design as part of Envision Wakefield project.
Student Member Comments	A. Festel said Sunrise may be shifting to a more education focus.
WPS Update	No comment
Town Council Update	J. Smith-Galvin reported that the community garden's water is turned off for the season. Gardeners will need to reapply for the lottery system to get a plot next year.
WMGLD Update	<p>T. Boettcher reported that WMGLD board signed a 5-year agreement with Quebec Hydro. This agreement increases their non-carbon generation to 47.2% portfolio as of November 1st.</p> <p>WMGLD is going participate in a solar project scheduled to be built in Ludlow by the Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale Electric Company (MMWEC).</p> <p>WMGLD is introducing energy efficiency program for Commercial and Industrial (C&I) businesses including municipal facilities as of January 1st.</p> <p>Solar rebates are expiring and there is 25kW available in the program for additional installation(s) at residential and commercial properties. They are advocating to the state for new DOE program for future installs. Status of town's additional array on water department facility is unknown.</p>
DPW Update	No comment
Clean Lake Committee Update	No comment
ConComm	Judy Green reported that the Light Pollution Seminar went well. The seminar was attended by members of the ZBA and Planning Board. The video will be made available on ConComm's meeting website. Upcoming sessions may include Local Wildlife.
Cultural Council Grant	Judy Green suggested that a grant application be submitted for spiral wetland plantings.
Next Meeting	The next regular Environmental Sustainability Committee meeting is scheduled to be Thursday, January 14, 2021 at 7pm.

**Committee
Meeting
Adjournment**

R. Greenberg motion to adjourn. M. Session second. R. Darnell performed roll call for approve to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 5:57 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Greenberg', written in a cursive style.

Robin Greenberg, Secretary

Attachments: -