



# ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

Thursday, June 11, 2020

7:00 P.M.

Zoom Meeting #989 0992 1371

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:**  
 Rob Darnell, Chair  
 Mary Hajjar, Vice Chair  
 Robin Greenberg, Recording Secretary  
 Suzy Veilleux, School Committee rep  
 Claire Moss, DPW rep  
 Tom Boettcher, WMGLD rep  
 Julie Smith-Galvin, Town Council rep  
 Sophie Brown, Student Liaison  
 Liz Sheridan, Student Liaison

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:**  
 Myra Sessions  
 Cameron Sweeney, Student Liaison  
 Addie Festel, Student Liaison

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

<b>Call to Order</b>	The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m by R. Darnell.
<b>Public Participation</b>	Carol Zoubek shared that Sustainable Wakefield group received the question on the scope of the town warrant article related to thin plastic bags. The committee shared that the intent of article is to close loop hole on restaurant take-out use.
<b>Approval of Minutes, May 2020</b>	R. Greenberg made motion to accept the minutes for May meeting, M. Hajjer second. Meeting minutes unanimous accepted.
<b>MVP Grant Application</b>	C. Moss noted deadline for Municipal Vulnerability Program grant application is next week. Wakefield is submitting on Greenhouse Gas Emissions + Social Vulnerability Assessment. Scope has expanded since its previous submission. DPW is also submitting an application for related to cleaning the lake. A response by the state expected by September 2020.
<b>Green Community Act</b>	R. Darnell presented criterion on how to be a Designed Green Community. J. Smith-Galvin hopes for revisit issue with Town Council. She will ask for the state rep to present to ESC on the process and strategies. The goal is to have Town Meeting articles on it in the Fall 2020 Town Meeting.
<b>Plastic Film Collection</b>	R. Darnell received Steve Maio's approval to have a barrel at Town Hall to collect plastic bags for a Trex bench, see attached flyer for more information. Barrel is now in place. Jenn McDonald and Greenwood PTO are working on social media for outreach. Barrels now also be located at the Farmers Market and Greenwood School. WHS Recycle Club will spread the news via social media accounts. J. Smith-Galvin will distribute copies of the flyer as different file types for distribution.

<b>Trees/ Rock garden</b>	R. Darnell talked with Steve Maio and there is no room available for the rock garden as discussed at the May ESC meeting.
<b>Student Liaison Update</b>	L. Sheridan wondered if old clothes can be turned into masks. J. Smith-Galvin offered fabrics to students if they want them to use them to masks as a fund raiser.
<b>WPS Updates</b>	S. Veilleux reported that state guidance is expected next week on reopening schools in the fall.
<b>Town Council Liaison Comments</b>	<p>J. Smith-Galvin shared that the town is creating a guidebook on businesses reopening. It may include sustainability related best practices, i.e. use of compostable containers and utilities. ESC members should send ideas to J. Smith-Galvin.</p> <p>Town Meeting is scheduled for Saturday, June 20, and it includes two citizen articles on Styrofoam and single use plastic film bags, including addresses uses of plastic straws.</p> <p>J. Smith-Galvin will share a petition to committee members for their own consideration. The petition calls for the removal of fossil fuel use in MSBA funded projects.</p> <p>The owner of land, adjacent to the Knights of Columbia building on North Ave is considering donating to the town ±4 acres lands, including wetland and upland. The proposal is being considered by the Conservation Commission.</p> <p>In future meeting, J. Smith-Galvin will provide an update on her research on a town land trust.</p>
<b>WMGLD Update</b>	<p>T. Boettcher shared that the community dashboard is in the works for the town's PV array at the water department building.</p> <p>DOER solar grant has received second round of funding for solar installations.</p> <p>WMGLD with MuniHelps is looking to provide a peak energy shaving program which means that a program participate could receive a credit when their temperature settings are adjusted by the municipal when there is a peak energy need. T. Boettcher will provide more info in a future meeting.</p> <p>WMGLD is looking at strategic plans on how to lower greenhouse gas from their power sources. Options could include support of a large solar/battery power supply in Ludlow and Vineyard Wind, if the project moves forward.</p>
<b>DPW Update</b>	C. Moss shared that pink textile bags are now available. Textiles collected will be resold and/or repurposed. Collection officially starts on Monday.

Compost bin and rain barrel distribution is scheduled for July. Americal Centre will have compost collection for the food pantry and Boys & Girls' use, schedule TBD.

For the first time, DPW is applied to the DEP's recycling dividends program, value is approximately \$10K. DPW how meets the program's requirement because of the town's support of backyard compost and textile collection.

The MVP dashboard is still in progress.

**Clean Lake Committee Update**

C. Moss and R. Darnell shared that the Clean Lake Committee worked with the town on the MVP grant application. They are working on community engagement by writing an article for the Item about the Friends of Lake Quannapowitt Gertrude Spaulding project.

**Town Meeting**

See comments above under Town Council comments. J. Smith-Galvin shared the schedule on upcoming town elections.

**Farmers Market**

Wakefield Farmers Markets opens June 20<sup>th</sup> from 9am-1pm.

**WCAP**

R. Darnell shared Wakefield Climate Action Project (WCAP), who runs the Farmers Market, is looking for a someone to assist their accounts. Boston Web Group on Albion Street is going to assist the group with their website.

**Virtual Forum on Sustainability**

J. Smith-Galvin shared that Sustainable Melrose has sponsored a virtual Forum on Sustainability on July 17, 2020, at 7-8:30pm with State Representative Lipper-Garabedian and State Senator Lewis. See SM's website for Zoom access information.

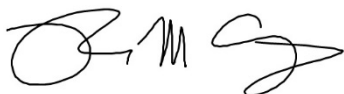
**Next Meetings**

The next regular Environmental Sustainability Committee meeting is scheduled for July 9, 2020.

**Committee Meeting Adjournment**

R. Greenberg motion to adjust. J. Smith-Galvin second. R. Darnell performed roll call for approve to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 8:11 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



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Robin Greenberg, Secretary

Attachments: Bags to Bench Challenge flyer

The Wakefield Environmental Sustainability Committee, in collaboration with the Greenwood Elementary PTO, announces:

# RECYCLE BEYOND THE BAG

## Bags to Bench Challenge



### FROM THE STORE



✓ Produce bags

✓ Store bags

✓ Ice bags



### FROM YOUR PANTRY



✓ Ziploc® & other reclosable bags

✓ Cereal box liners

✓ Case overwrap

✓ Bread bags



### FROM YOUR FRONT DOOR



✓ Newspaper sleeves

✓ Dry cleaning bags

✓ Bubble wrap

✓ Plastic e-commerce mailers

Plastics must be clean, dry and free of food and organic residue

If Wakefield collects 500 lbs of bags by December 1, we will win a bench made of recycled bags from the Trex Plastic Film Recycling Challenge

Drop off bin located by Dumpster at Town Hall  
For more information contact: [ESC@wakefield.ma.us](mailto:ESC@wakefield.ma.us)