



TOWN OF WAKEFIELD

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

Thursday, April 8, 2021
7:00 P.M.
Zoom Meeting

**COMMITTEE
MEMBERS
PRESENT:**

Rob Darnell, Chair
Mary Hajjar, Vice Chair
Robin Greenberg, Recording Secretary
Myra Sessions
Tom Boettcher, WMGLD rep
Julie Smith-Galvin, Town Council rep
Suzy Veilleux, School Committee rep
Joe Conway, DPW rep (voting rep)
Uma Gerweck, Student Liaison
Nick Pilleri, Student Liaison
Sophie Brown, Student Liaison
Abby Lane

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:
Ann Waitt, DPW rep

----- TOPICS OF DISCUSSION -----**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m by R. Darnell.

**Public
Participation**

Carol Zoubek shared Creation Cares that they organizing lake clean up this weekend. It will be their fourth week doing it.

Daniele is interested in a zero-waste lifestyle. She is new to town and is excited to learn about the committee

R. Darnell reminded the public that their speaking participation is limited to Public Participation unless called upon by the Chair. Before speaking, the public shall state their name and address. Comments are also welcome via email at esc@wakefield.ma.us.

**Approval of
Minutes**

T. Boettcher to accept with edit on March 11 meeting notes per his amendments and March 25 as written. S. Veilleux second. All approved.

**Waste Reduction
Updates**

Curbside compost: J. Conway shared the Black Earth currently has 206 active Wakefield accounts, thirty of which are new customers. When Wakefield gets to 300, there will be a price reduction for all Wakefield customers. He has had no negative reaction to the curb side offering. Current compost folks should see price reduction at their next renewal period. DPW is doing PR on the program on their website, in the spring time water bills mailing, and a press release which was



published by the Item. All Wakefield customers will get another price reduction when we reach 400 Wakefield accounts. DPW is tracking weight collected.

Plastic reduction: J. Smith-Galvin and Melissa Eusden will meet with the Wakefield Chamber of Commerce and restaurants on April 22nd for training to businesses on by-law. Jenn McDonald made a fact sheet for businesses on by-law compliance to be shared. The town is looking to recognize local businesses' 'green' practices, i.e. compliance with by-law and other practices (compost). J. Smith-Ga hopes the dialogue with business continues beyond the training.

**Green
Communities Act
(GCA)**

J. Smith-Galvin shared that the Stretch Code will be on the Town Warrant for the spring Town Meeting (TM), pending Town Council's vote on Monday. At TM, building inspector will be available to attend to address questions. She will request Neal Duffy from the state DEP to also attend and be available to answer questions. T. Boettcher suggested that in the presentation of the Stretch Code article, it be noted that town is missing state grant funding because Wakefield has not adopted the Stretch Code and we are not a GCA. Stretch code information is now available on ESC's website: <https://www.wakefield.ma.us/environmental-sustainability-committee/pages/stretch-code>

WMGLD continues to work on baseline info which is another piece of the GCA application to the state.

Land Protection

M. Hajjar and M. Sessions are talking with Envision Wakefield representatives about connecting their goals with town land protection.

**Safe Streets
Group**

J. Smith-Galvin shared that the group is focused on Safe Routes to Schools. Their next meeting is April 27th with an agenda of rail trail update. They are in the process of launching social media account. They have no April Earth Day in-person events planned.

**Committee
Collaborations**

R. Greenberg shared PBC selected Leftfield as the OPM for the Wakefield Memorial High School project.

ESC Social Media

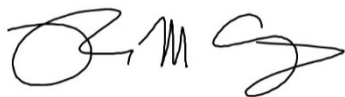
R. Darnell shared that the town created an ESC a Facebook page. www.facebook.com/wakefieldesc Training will be provided on the rules for posting on the page and everyone should see the page's 'About' for rules. All posting and comments are subject to Mass. Open Meeting Laws. For now, all proposed posts should go through R. Darnell. S. Veilleux suggested that the group create a social media content calendar to help plan content. She offered to be a resource on how to create it.

Earth Day Events

M. Session shared that Jenn McDonald suggested Envision Wakefield's framework (<https://resilient.wakefield.ma.us/action-plan>) be incorporated in Earth Day events. M. Session is working on promoting event with Patch, Item, etc.

Student Member comments	<p>S. Brown shared she got high school clean up event approval by the school, date TBD.</p> <p>U. Gerweck suggested use of hashtag #EarthDayWakefield to promote positive actions. She will send R. Darnell language to promote on use of it.</p> <p>R.Greenberg shared that the 15th Annual YouthCAN Summit, a virtual youth climate action event hosted by Boston Latin School YouthCAN group, is April 17th.</p>
Wakefield Public Schools (WPS) Update	S. Veilleux will follow up with school food service on waste and food service distribution for the next year.
Town Council Update	J. Smith-Galvin shared that Town Council will vote to on proposed warrant articles on Monday.
WMGLD Update	<p>T. Boettcher shared that state passed a climate bill in March. Its impact to municipal utilities includes providing the municipals utilities with a roadmap to meet net zero off-sets by 2050.</p> <p>There is a heat pump public training/workshop provided by a WMGLD's consultants on May 13th at 7pm for home owners. Trainings are being scheduled for contractors on rebates.</p>
DPW Update	J Conway shared that work in Greenwood is starting soon as well as work at Vets Field. Vets Field scope includes invasive species removal, stormwater redirection to raingardens, and creating pickleball courts.
Clean Lake Committee Update	R. Darnell shared the CLC is looking at inlets and outlets improvements at the lake.
Upcoming Events	Town Election is April 27 th . Town Meeting is Saturday, May 8 th at WMHS. There will be indoor and outdoor accommodation available.
Announcement	T. Boettcher shared that the farmer market is looking for business manager and other positions on the planning committee.
Next Meetings	The next regular Environmental Sustainability Committee meeting is scheduled to be Thursday, May 13, 2021 at 7pm.
Committee Meeting Adjournment	M. Session motion to adjoin. J. Smith-Galvin second. R. Darnell performed roll call for appro.ve to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 8:19 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Robin Greenberg, Secretary
Attachments: -