

Ad Hoc Sustainability Committee of Woodbridge, CT

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, October 25th, at 6:00pm

Woodbridge Town Hall – Selectman’s Conference Room and Virtual Meeting

Present: Members: Hillary Drumm – Co-Chair, Tom Kenefick – Co-Chair, Lor Ferrante Fernandes, Lana Marcucio, Alyssa Anderson, Nita Lathia – Co-Secretary (virtual), Kelly Aviles – Co-secretary (virtual), Diana McCarthy-Bercury (absent), Beej Ahern (absent), and Leslie Lyons (absent).

Public attendees: Sue Torgerson

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:08pm
2. **September 27th Minutes:** Hillary motioned to approve minutes; Lor Ferrante Fernandes seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
 - a. **Vote: Yes** - Hillary Drumm – Co-Chair, Tom Kenefick – Co-Chair, Lor Ferrante Fernandes, Lana Marcucio, Alyssa Anderson, Nita Lathia – Co-Secretary (virtual), Kelly Aviles – Co-secretary (virtual).
3. **Public Comment:** Liaison: Sheila McCreven was unable to attend.
4. **Survey Results:**
 - a. Expectation to present results of survey to all places we requested feedback from
 - b. Slides to be updated with more detail for presentation
 - c. Survey results noted:
 - i. Woodbridge is seen by majority town as being sustainable
 - ii. Townspeople want to make sustainability changes in their lives
 - iii. Composting, food waste & recycling are biggest concerns
 - iv. Top interest to reduce home/building energy is solar
 - v. Would like programs encouraging buying local when discussion of improve food systems
 - vi. Sustainable transport noted most interest in bike/walking options (e.g., sidewalks and bike trails) and EV
 - vii. Prefer to receive information in a way that they can read at own time
 - viii. Earth day interest plant/seed swap, clothing Freecycle, electronics recycling, etc.
5. **Lecture Series:**
 - a. First lecture held on 10/21 about Energy, presented by Diana McCarthy-Bercury
 - i. 17-18 people attended

- ii. Session was recorded, will be available on town YouTube channel
 - iii. Established a presence and got word out about the Committee and discussion points
 - b. Discussion to move composting lecture to Massaro, another presentation to NEBCO
 - c. Possible presentation from DEEP about native/invasive species
 - d. Follow up needed for presentation on water and solar power
 - e. Lecture dates:
 - i. 12/16/2023 – Buying Local (post instead of lecture?)
 - ii. 1/20/2023 – Recycle CT?
 - iii. 2/17/2023
 - iv. 3/16/2023
 - v. 4/20/2023 – No – Earth Day will be held at library on 4/27
 - f. Economic Development Committee asking for help updating website of businesses. Kelly Aviles volunteered to reach out to Woodbridge Chamber of Commerce to see what they have available to leverage.
- 6. **Sustainability tip in WTN, other newspaper:** Hillary met with Woodbridge Town News. They agreed we can add monthly content.
 - a. Monthly in paper
 - b. First topic possibly introduction to what the adhoc sustainability committee is or results from the survey
 - c. Lana & Alyssa to draft content, Hillary has provided the deadlines & contact info.
- 7. **Next Meeting:** Next meeting will be held on November 29th, will be hybrid.
- 8. The meeting was adjourned at 7:04pm.

Minutes taken by: Kelly Aviles