Trumbull Advisory Sustainability Team

Meeting Minutes
3/23/26

I. Attendance/Welcome Guests

Mari Jackson, Kevin Malone, April Lang, Dean Lindsey, Courtney Bahr, Janet Epstein, Mary Isaac, Kimberly W, Jimmy ??

II. Review and approve 2/9/26 meeting minutes

April moved. Dean seconded. All in favor.

III. Recycling

1. Single stream contamination. Possible solutions.
    i. Problem: If >10% contamination, then the Town gets a fee and conversely if trash has recyclables, Town may be charged for that as well
    ii. Solutions: CT DEEP reports that nearly 60% of our state recycling is via additional recycling programs- Recycle more non-blue bin items -- electronics, textiles (we collected 25,000 pounds last year)
2. Other strategies to reducing recycling contamination
    i. Vicki newsletter
    ii. Weekly s'more flyer from elementary schools
    iii. Social media- input to Recycling Coordinator is welcomed
3. Beyond the Bin update- includes beauty care, printer ink, plastic film, etc.
    i. Updated the library collection area with new bins and QR codes on display
    ii. Terracycle boxes purchased
4. Book recycling bins
    i. Working with Baystate Books- looking to move them next to the textile bins

IV. Events for the Year

1. Earth Day
    i. TNAC on April 18, 10am-1pm
2. Pollinator Pathway plant grant program
    i. White Birch partner for plants, sign ups starting soon, planning for plant pick up at the end of May
    ii. April setting up in-person and online sign-ups
    iii. Dean looking into available funds for the program from CC
    iv. Looking to know how the previous plants did (dead or alive?)
        a. April will follow up with emails

3. Mattress recycling
    i. May 9, 9am to 12pm at THS
4. Swap – costumes, sporting goods
    i. Still under consideration

V. New Programs
1. Food Rescue / food donation at schools
    i. Jane Ryan and Tashua ES parents are interested in helping to run this.
    ii. They will talk with D Farms ES re: their experience.
2. Energy savings programs
    i. Need to check with UI

VI. Coordination with other groups
1. Conservation Commission
    i. Vine Team plans a date on April 18 at the Twin Brooks Park by waterfall
    ii. Dean will ask P&R about clearing vines at TNAC
    iii. Dean will inquire on PP funds
2. Library
    i. Display case is up for Earth month

VII. New volunteers / opportunities / programs
1. Guest attendees directed to contact Mari if interested in getting involved

VIII. Other Business
1. Sustainable CT re-certification
    i. Need to identify an equity toolkit- possible programs include the Pollinator Pathway at the apartments, or programs at the Farmer's Market since Town took over
2. Energy Conservation- question came up regarding solar opportunities in town
    i. Mari will talk to George Estrada
3. Big Belly status
    i. Current bins at Tait Rd are well received
    ii. Request made to obtain data to quantify bin benefits

Meeting ended 4:33 pm.

Minutes submitted by K. Malone, TNAC representative to Sustainable Trumbull