Trumbull Advisory Sustainability Team

Meeting Minutes
8/12/26

I. Attendance/Welcome Guests

Mari Jackson, Dean Lindsey, Kendra Norman, Janet Epstein, Courtney Bahr, April Lang, Kevin Malone, Susie Horan, Cindy Katske (Town Liaison), Bill Chin (facilitator)

II. Review and approve 3/23/26 meeting minutes

Mari moved, Kendra seconded. All in favor.

III. Possible Upcoming Events

1. Beyond the Bin -- Library and Recycling Drive
    i. Tracking collections at the event

    Estimating amounts for:

    - Contact lenses and packaging and eyecare
    - Black plastic to go containers
    - Plastic film

    ii. TerraCycle

    We have collected almost 300 pounds calendar YTD, tracking to collect nearly 600 pounds by year end. Items include cosmetic and beauty care, oral care, pens/marker, razors, deodorant, and pumps.

    iii. Ink Cartridges

    Expect to exceed 2025 total (400 cartridges). 282 cartridges so far in 2026.

2. Mattress recycling
    i. 35 mattresses collected at May event.
    ii. November 14 is scheduled date for next collection.
3. Tires

    Town enrolling with the free EPR tire program, same set up at Transfer Station but no fee to residents to drop off

4. Costume Swap
    i. Partnering with Library for first annual event
    ii. Drop off will be held at monthly recycling drive Sept. 12, then at library Sept 14-28
    iii. Swap shopping of costumes will be held at library on Oct 8th and recycling drive Oct 10th, likely one costume per person, details will be finalized at 9.28 ST meeting once we see donation volume
5. Cleanup

    Will skip this year unless someone would like to coordinate.

6. Pumpkin composting
    i. Plan for November 14 monthly drive
        1. Use smaller totes instead of dumpster

ii. Also, provide info on places that accept old pumpkins

7. Gas cylinders

   Town is enrolling in this EPR program to offer free drop off collection of cylinders at the Transfer Station.

8. Electronics

   June 1 started new recycler at transfer station with higher reimbursement rate.

9. Textiles

   i. Hope to add one bin at the transfer station

   ii. Over 30,000 pounds estimated for 2026

IV. New Programs

1. Food Rescue / food donation at schools

   i. Susie Horan coordinates food rescue at Daniels Farm School.

      1. Started in spring 2025.
      2. Rescued food goes to Trumbull Food Pantry.
      3. Breakfast food items currently rescued. Could collect lunch items but need more volunteers to bring food to Food Pantry.

   ii. Hope to start a program at Jane Ryan and maybe Tashua schools soon.

V. Coordination with other groups

1. Conservation Commission

   i. Vine Team going to TNAC on September 19, 9-11 am

   ii. Farmer's Market event to raise awareness about trees and CC in general

      1. Tashua Knolls has several new trees

   iii. State of CT Forester has provided guidance on trees

   iv. Arbor Day event

   v. Riparian buffer legislation coming from the State

VI. New volunteers / opportunities

1. Need another helper at monthly recycling drive
2. Farmer's Market has recycled craft activity

VII. Other Business

1. Sustainable CT re-certification

   i. Submittal due on August 18

   ii. Trumbull will likely get certified for bronze level

Meeting ended 4:00 pm.

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