Meeting: February 5, 2020
Location: Department of Public Works
Members Present: Jenn Reilly, Kristine Dennis, Mark Keifer
Members Absent: Jesse Hayes, Cameron Crouth
Audience of Citizens: None

Call to Order: Jenn Reilly called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM.

Approval of Minutes: No quorum, so unable to approve the minutes.

Old Business:

Facebook Page- Still looking into opening one; coordinating with Town Manager on feasibility.

Committee Budget- $200 for 2020.

Home energy audit providers- Kristine reached out to several vendors and she is still waiting to hear back from them.

School recycling and composting project- No training has occurred at the schools yet. The school currently don’t collect metrics on recycling vs. trash amounts. Jenn offered to look into what the monthly tipping fees was for the schools through the finance office.

The Committee discussed ordering more compost bins? We may need to submit this to the Town Council for approval. Due to the overwhelming success of the program the Committee discussed ordering about 24 bins and selling them to anyone (not just Coventry residents) at the market, at cost. This would be a no cost opportunity for the town to increase awareness on recycling and the Committee could continue recycling outreach activities throughout the summer at the Farmers’ Market.

School Building Committee Meeting- February 6, 2020. Jenn will be attending. They will be discussing the Microgrid project, LED project, and additional solar lights. Most of the town buildings have been converted to LED lighting as of this time, the remainder have been scheduled.

Solar light at DPW- The light still does not work. We may have a connection to an electrical wholesaler that can take a look at the light.

EV charging stations in town- The CPACE program is a CT Green Bank program for businesses where a new incentive to installing a solar system on your business is that you receive up to 3
charging stations. The Town is getting solar carports at the schools under the ZREC program and have reached out to the Green Bank inquiring if the EV charger incentive could be coupled with the solar carport project already in the queue. We are waiting to hear back from Green Bank.

Monthly educational tips/flyers for students- The Committee will propose topic ideas for the March meeting, at which time the Committee will decide which areas to focus on and plan to work with the schools to begin handing out flyers with the start of the 2020-2021 school year.

Eastern CT Green Action Group- Jenn attended the regional meeting in Mansfield. A lot of talk was about pushing legislation in CT for climate change initiatives. One individual from this group is interested in coming to the Farmers Market to demonstrate the power of what an EV battery can do.

Farmers Market Going Green event-

- We are booked for June 14, 2020.
- Jenn drafted invitations for vendors and other towns to come help. Committee reviewed and these will go out to distribution lists.
- Recruiting car dealerships- Cameron has made great progress in working with potential dealerships.
- Ride and Drive route- We have a potential route planned out. Committee will finalize.
- Kristine will look into a kids’ display for the event.
- Dealers will be responsible for providing their own liability and insurance protection for the ride and drive event. Committee will require dealerships to provide liability form as part of registration package for event.
- There is no backup date, so our event will be rain or shine.
- Once the Farmer’s Market people put together the new paperwork for 2020 they will send it to Jenn and the Committee can start contacting potential vendors.
- Committee to research vendors for the event.
- Discussed purchasing shirts for Energy Committee members to wear during the Farmers’ Market so we are easily identifiable if people have questions.

New Business:

The town is starting an electric purchase bid using Titan for locking in rates for town and school buildings. Town has locked in oil and diesel so far, and is still waiting on natural gas to come down before locking that in.

Business on Hold:
Holiday recycling tabling event. The Committee will look into ways to display in formation around town to inform residents about proper recycling habits over the holidays. This project is on hold until later into 2020.

The next regular meeting was scheduled for March 4, 2020 but due to members traveling the Committee voted to cancel the March 4 meeting and hold a Special Meeting on Tuesday, March 3 at 6:30 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristine Dennis
Secretary