

Windsor Conservation Commission

Draft Minutes - Zoom Meeting

September 29, 2020

Present: A. Adams, A. Beaudin, L. Chayes, J. Klase, N. Pepin, N. Sachdev, C. Yeich, T. Young; ex officio – E. Perko

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

A motion was made by Commissioner Pepin to accept the July 21st minutes, seconded by Colette and approved unanimously; 6.0.0. (Exceptions: Chayes (7:35); Young - new member)

- E-Cycle comments – Ayse reported that there were a number of comments posted on Facebook stating that the landfill also collected electronics and questioned whether we were competing with the town. The town does hire the same company, Take-2 to collect electronics at the transfer station. It was suggested that we include this information in our posters/articles for the next E-Cycle event. Ann pointed out that the electronics collected are taken apart and a large variety of components are recycled. Ann thanked all members who participated.
- Neill has run into snags with his “Litter” program and feels that the timing is appropriate due to the increased amount of PPE that has been tossed indiscriminately around town. Colette has volunteered to help him with the program.
- Chair Ann talked about the impacts of litter to our water system in addition to the drought we are experiencing. Nigel’s studies at work include information that this drought hit a historic record low in 30 years. As Ann pointed out, litter is also impacting the quality of our waterways as well as cluttering our sewer drainage areas. Nigel will work on a program “Protecting Our Waterways.”

ACTION: submit questions regarding this topic to Ann no later than Monday, October 5th.

- Farms - A Winter Farmers Market is still on the radar. Neill is in contact with Jane Garibay, First Town Downtown Director, on a collaborative effort. Research on potential venues will continue. Several places were mentioned – Town Hall, Senior Center, Grace Church & St. Gabriel’s Church.
- Litter control – Ann has written letters to the Town Council members, town manager, and public works department condemning littering. Tammy suggested activating high school students to collect litter at town parks, open spaces and recreational areas. Caution regarding liability issues and touching possible contaminated refuse were brought up. Steve Bianchi (sp) from Windsor High School will be contacted to see if this can be worked out. Defacing the landscape is not acceptable and becomes a health issue as well as an aesthetic pollutant. A program idea was expressed “Keeping Windsor Clean.”

ACTION: A slogan/meme is needed. Ideas and questions to be posed to a panel of experts are needed and should be sent to Ann or Lea who will head this project.

- CACIWC – Chair Ann announce that the annual meeting will take place virtually on Dec 5th. One half day of sessions focusing on the pandemic, climate change and green industries. She will check to see how the CC members can tune in.
 - Reminder - members are expected to attend five out of the nine meetings of the year.
 - Commissioner Lea suggested a plastic bag collection project that will yield a park bench donated to the town. She will research this further.
 - Nigel mentioned the Kenny Park Sustainability Project located near the park entrance on Windsor Avenue which sells farm products and suggested that we place them on any literature that is sent to the winter farmers market group.
- Lea motioned that the meeting adjourn at 8:05 p.m., seconded by Jamie.

Respectfully submitted,

Colette Yeich,
Secretary