

**ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMISSION**

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IN NEWINGTON, CT

**Town of Newington, Connecticut**

2022 JUL 11 AM 9:06

Meeting Minutes of May 12th, 2022

  
Town Clerk

1. The regular meeting was held using Zoom platform and was called to order at 6:38 p.m.
2. Roll Call- Commissioners present: Joyce Boncal, Patty Foley, Karen Serio, and Joe Trombetta.  
Commission Absent: Jean Kappes  
Town Council Liaisons: Mitch Page excused, Gail Budrejko  
Staff present: Robert Hillman
3. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
4. Approval of minutes- Motion by Commissioner Serio to approve the April 14th meeting minutes as presented, second by Commissioner Trombetta, passed unanimously.
5. Approval of Agenda- Changed Item 13 Next Meeting to June 9<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 Zoom. Added to New Business ,item B. Balf Quarry report.
6. Public Participation- None
7. Old Business-
  - A. Sustainable CT- Chairperson Foley had nothing to report but will keep commission updated with any emails she receives.
  - B. Facebook- Commissioner Serio commented the membership has been stagnant as of late. Serio will begin posting information on the site on Tuesdays and Thursdays for the next 10 weeks to try and get people interested. Tuesdays posts will be based on the app "What's in, What's out" which is run by DEEP. Thursdays post will be on town news and events related to recycling. Mr. Hillman will assist Commissioner Serio with information for posting on town information. Comm. Serio will also post meeting dates on the page. The Chairperson is hoping to get residents more engaged. Commissioners Boncal and Trombetta think it is a great idea.
  - C. Positions open on commission / update type of members: The town council voted to remove the definition of industry member and make all seven members, members from the general public. A legal notice will be posted in the newspaper in mid-June and the change will go into effect following the posting.
  - D. Litter pick up citizen group- Commissioner Serio- No update
  - E. Events
    1. Upcycling Contest- Commissioner Boncal is pleased as she has been receiving applications and photos. June 1st is the deadline for applications, June 12<sup>th</sup> is

the deadline to submit photos. Currently there is no date for the awards ceremony she is hoping for mid-August.

2. School poster/essay contest- The Chairperson will reach out to the Superintendent of the BOE to schedule the contest for September. A decision will need to be made on whether to make the contest virtual or in person. The essay contest will follow the same guidelines as the poster contest.
  3. Extravaganza- The application for the booth has not been submitted. The Chairperson asked the question does the commission want a booth due to rise in Covid cases.
  4. Waterfall- The Chairperson asked if the commission would like to choose whether to attend the Waterfall or Extravaganza. The Commissioners opted to have a booth at the Waterfall festival in September.
8. Sanitation Department update- Mr. Hillman reported there were over 550 cars that attended the MDC Hazardous Waste Collection on April 30<sup>th</sup> in Newington. Also, town residents recycled 163 mattresses weighing over 7,520 lbs.
9. New Business-
- A. Communications/ Education on Reducing, Reusing, and Recycling- None
  - B. Balf Quarry report- Commissioner Boncal reported at the last Balf meeting she asked if air quality monitors could be set up in the neighborhoods surrounding the quarry. The health district stated they would look into setting them up this summer. Commissioner Boncal will reach out to Barbara Giolotto at the health district for a timetable on setup. Commissioner Serio thanked Commissioner Boncal and thought this is a great idea. The Chairperson asked when the next meeting is scheduled and Commissioner Boncal stated it will be in September.
10. Public Participation- None
11. Commissioner Comments-
- Commissioner Serio mentioned the Waterfall festival is scheduled for September 24th
12. Staff Comments- none
13. Council Liaison comments- none
14. Next regular meeting- Scheduled June 9th 2022 at 6:30 pm.
15. Adjournment- Motion made by Commissioner Boncal to adjourn the meeting at 7:17p.m., seconded by Commissioner Serio and passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted

Robert Hillman

Highway Superintendent