

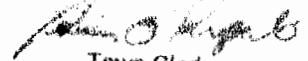
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMISSION

Town of Newington, Connecticut

Meeting Minutes of October 13, 2022

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Town Clerk

1. The regular meeting was held using Zoom platform and was called to order at 6:35 p.m.
2. Roll Call- Commissioners present: Joyce Boncal, Patty Foley, Karen Serio, and Joe Trombetta.
Commissioner Absent: Jean Kappes
Town Council Liaisons: Mitch Page, Gail Budrejko absent
Staff present: Robert Hillman Superintendent Highway & Sanitation, Mike DAmato, Planning and Zoning
3. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
4. Approval of minutes- "Agenda item 7) F.2 the correct fee should be \$60 not \$160".
Councilor Page requested unexcused be removed from his absence.
Motion by Commissioner Boncal to approve the minutes as amended, second by Commissioner Trombetta, passed unanimously.
5. Approval of Agenda- No Changes
6. Public Participation- None
7. Old Business-
 - A. Sustainable CT- Chairperson Foley introduced Mike D'Amato who is a contractor currently working with the Planning and Zoning Department. Mike will be assisting the commission with earning the Sustainable CT Certification. He will review the criteria for meeting the requirements and identify where points can be captured from the planning and zoning perspective. Commissioner Foley asked if this could be done for submittal in July 2023 and Mike was confident he could have the town planners portion completed. He will compile a summary of what the planning office can do to earn points listed by priority and have it for the next meeting.
Foley also introduced Karen Gallichio, Town Manager's Office. Karen will also be helping with Sustainable CT. Karen asked when the working group would meet to discuss the plan. The Chairperson will send out an invite. She also urged the commission members to review the booklet to see where points can be earned.
 - B. Facebook- Commissioner Serio reported the Keep Newington Litter free page is up subscribers to 267 adding on average about 5 new followers per month. The Think Before You Toss Page has remained the same.
Chairperson Foley said she would send out welcome letters to the new followers inviting them to get involved with the commission

- C. Positions open on commission / update type of members: Chairperson Foley said commissioner Kappes will submit a formal resignation. She also commented she has a neighbor who would like to help the commission but at this point cannot commit to being a commissioner,
- D. Litter pick up citizen group- Commissioner Serio had no update will have one for next month's meeting. She will have information for Sustainable CT when needed.
- E. Balf/Tilcon Quarry report- Annual meeting will be held on Monday, October 17th 6:30 PM. Commissioner Boncal gave an update on the air quality monitoring in the Balf Quarry area. She mentioned there have been readings of over 50 for a 24 hour period which exceeds the EPA's threshold.

F. Events

- 1. School poster/essay contest- The chairperson has been unable to coordinate anything as of the meeting
 - 2. Waterfall- Commissioner Boncal stated the turnout exceeded her expectations. Those that stopped by the tent were very engaged especially in the quiz. For next year's event Boncal will add information on the commission and climate change on the backside of the quiz. Commissioner Serio made notes to improve on the event. She said there were over 70 people that stopped by the tent.
8. Sanitation Department update- Mr. Hillman offered a few suggestions for Commissioner Serio to post on the face book page.
9. New Business- Commissioner Boncal suggested the town install parking space signs that read "Space for hybrid or electric cars only" to commend those that are thinking about the environment. The Chairperson will look into whether this will earn points for Sustainable CT. She also recommended the commission purchase another air sensor to be installed at Elizabeth Green school and if town cannot maintain then donate it to the CCHD.
10. Public Participation- None
11. Commissioner Comments-
- Commissioner Trombetta asked about snow plow operations seeing the winters season is around the corner. Mr Hillman gave a briefly discussed the chemical used to treat roads and how it has an organic base.
12. Staff Comments- none
13. Council Liaison comments-
14. Next regular meeting- Scheduled for November 10th 2022 at 6:30 pm we will meet via Zoom until further notice

15. Adjournment- Motion made by Commissioner Boncal to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m., seconded by Commissioner Serio and passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted

Robert Hillman

Highway Superintendent