

**Green Task Force
Minutes of May 30th, 2012 Meeting**

To: Patricia H. Strauss, Town Clerk
Westport, Connecticut

Members Present: David Mann, Robby Gershowitz, Caroline Foster, Steve Edwards, Hal Kendig, Cathy Talmadge

Members Absent: Alan Abramson, Bruce Haymes, George Masumian, Wendy Batteau, Steve Smith

David Mann called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm, and the minutes from the April 16th meeting were approved unanimously.

The Green Task Force started by talking about Sustainable Success Stories, and specifically the Passive house virtual tour and talk held by Earthplace on Friday, June 1st.

The only concerns discussed were sending notifications to attendees and encouraging them to sign up for HES visits after the fact. Jess Bergman from Neighbor to Neighbor agreed to write up the key points for Julia, who will be wrapping up the talk.

The Task Force also spoke about the student Passive House meeting, which went well. The only concern addressed was tying it back to Earthplace, sign ups, and the home energy challenge.

The Task Force also discussed engaging the business community in Sustainable Success Stories, and Steve agreed to summarize everything, and explained how ZREC RFP's for large and medium size solar pv systems were out, and that once pricing was set the small roofs will go out with a set price of the median of the medium roof. The Task Force also spoke about contacting Nancy Harris and offering to help (if the school system is interested) review proposals or anyway to the Board of Ed or Superintendent's office deemed useful and the motion to do so was approved unanimously. The Task Force preliminarily identified Long Lots, Bedford, and Staples as potential roofs for PV systems.

The next item address was funding for HES for oil heated homes, and the Task Force unanimously passed a motion to send a follow up letter to State Leadership and Westport's Legislative Representatives supporting the restoration of funding for efficiency programs for oil heated customers.

Robby Gershowitz and Caroline Foster agreed to send out a similar letter from Club Green at Staples High School.

Pippa Bell Ader gave an update on the Neighbor to Neighbor Energy Challenge, explaining how the Unitarian Church and Club Green had enhanced training for canvassing, tabling, and other techniques. In the next 6 or so weeks, there will be a partner organization seminar on tabling and communication skills. The aim was for late June, but an early September date was discussed as well.

The Task Force achieved their 250 sign-ups goal, and Westport still is number one in getting sign-ups.

David Mann next spoke about a summer intern and how to advertise the job description. He suggested we slightly tweak some phrases in the job description such as "sustainable social media process." Pippa Bell Ader spoke about it being an unpaid

internship with a stipend, tied to milestones. It was agreed that the intern would report to Pippa, with David, and the Green Task Force having general oversight as the grant funding the internship is for the Green Task Force.

The Task Force agreed that the intern's stipend would be \$1000 for the summer and work should be estimated at 15-25 hours per week for 6-8 weeks, and will be advertised on the SHS Job Bank, Fairfield U, NCC, and Sacred Heart, ideally by Friday June 1st. Pippa Bell Ader and David Mann agreed to interview them, and this passed unanimously.

The next item that the Task Force discussed was the planning of the Fairfield County Regional Task Force meeting, and the Task Force volunteered Westport as a location to help organize. David Mann spoke about suggested dates of late June and Early July (ideally the 25th-29th).

The Task Force spoke about the two suggested topics, and which to take on, solar or high performance building -- how to incentivize it and increase adoption of these methods.

The Task Force talked about tax credits and expediting building permit process. David Mann reported that N2N is finalizing the ability of home's seller to have a HES visit and the buyer can receive the rebate. N2N is working with CL&P and Prudential on this.

Jess Bergman and Hal Kendig to figure out logistics for the regional meeting, for example getting food from Fresh Market, organizing schedules, etc.

The final topic discussed was the We Green Westport Awards, which would be open to the public and put in a Press Release to Pat Scully. David Mann talked about putting it on Facebook and directing people to the Facebook pages, as well as putting physical copies in the office and posting it on the website.

The meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by:

David Mann
Chair

Caroline Foster
Secretary