

Green Task Force - Minutes

Date: 6/24/2013 Meeting called to order at 7:33pm.

Location: Town Hall, Room 309
Westport, Connecticut

There was no quorum. Present at the meeting were Zack Pensak, David Mann, Steve Edwards, Hal Kendig, Pippa Bell Ader (acting as secretary)

1. Approval of April 2013 minutes : skipped this month due to lack of quorum.

2. GTF membership and participation :

(a) SHS members:

Zack will not be available for summer meetings. and is attending college next year. We wish him the best. Robby plans to continue being a member of GTF next year, but is not available all summer. Mike Aitkenhead recommends Sarah Fox to replace Zack for the upcoming academic year. She is to be co-president of Club Green with Robby next year.

(b) Future guest speakers:

Lisa Shufro is interested in giving a presentation on "Landscaping for energy conservation and wildlife". The GTF would be interested in hearing her goals, and recommends that she talk to tree board as well, as they are interested in this. She is invited to talk to the GTF in the fall, for 15-20 minutes.

Sabrina Szeto of the Housing Development Fund would like to meet with Human Services and a couple of people from GTF to introduce us to the programs they have to offer, for low income families. Pippa to arrange a meeting and to invite a Building Department representative, with the goal to making energy efficiency loans and building permit process as streamlined as possible.

3. GTF and social media discussion

(a) Constant Contact : The process of getting email invitations out to GTF email list for the Unacceptable Levels movie was less than smooth. Since then David and Pippa have met with Carrie Makover, town IT, and have set up at GTF Constant Contact account. This will enable the GTF to send out announcements to large email lists, without having to rely on IT assistance.

(b) Other social media (Facebook, website, etc)

We may want to ask Sarah Ferrante, Earthplace marketing, to help with Facebook, twitter, tumblr, insta-gram promotion of upcoming films.

As far as GTF Facebook page is concerned, Zack will ask Grant Shwabacher, who did the Green Day did web design if he might be interested in helping with the GTF Facebook page.

Re: N2N/Stay Cool Westport BBQ, Bruce has volunteered to put the event on

Facebook.

** Everyone is to look at Website (or should it read Facebook?)

4. C-PACE grant update:

a. The GTF submitted an application and was awarded a grant that was cut back because CEFIA will produce marketing materials themselves. We were awarded \$6,000 towards:

a workshop, with support of Chamber of Commerce, online advertising, social media support and a 2nd event: field trip to BB & B complex, the first C-PACE project in the state. We are considering hiring a bus to drive to the complex, where we will meet with complex owner and major tenants to discuss what they did, how they did it, how it worked. Would like to have a Norwalk official there to discuss how the city supported the project. Workshop in July, field trip in September. Funding also available for small signage: recognition for town for what it has done.

b. 1 Wilton Rd: is becoming an architect's office, and is considering C-PACE. In addition, it would be a goal to profile a long-standing building owner in Westport

c. Direct mailing to membership directory (DMA, chamber of Commerce).

Steve Edwards is to look sewer bills where he can identify bigger complexes around Post Rd. Wendy was nominated to help with drafting the letter as she knows about C-PACE.

5. July 11 Stay Cool Kick-Off BBQ and N2N Rewards Ribbon Cutting

(a) Invitations: sent out.

(b) Other details: volunteers needed to assist at the event.

6. Municipal Solar update : There are still legal issues with Solar City's contract. If they cannot be resolved the town will move to the next bidder.

A solar canopy at Longshore is not practical at this time, but solar at transfer station/public works garage, 3 roofs at Longshore, golf building is.

The solar canopy requires a P&Z site plan approval and a CAM report, neither of which can be accomplished quickly. The intent is to gain approval and get installations on the Parsell Public Works garage and the Longshore golf building as the first tier and then continue working in the canopy at longshore and the installation at the WPCF.

7. Event Series:

(a) Fierce Green Fire July 25: Director Mark Kitchell to come.

Have announcement at July 11 event. On town website.

Shannon typically sends out event advisory 3 weeks before, then media alert 2 and one week before.

(b) Report on Unacceptable Levels film June 13:
70 people came. Well received.

Shannon to share contacts with GTF.

(c) Future events: Chasing Ice. \$150 for film.

Considering asking Josh Wolfe to speak: photographer documenting climate change. He partnered with Gavin Schmidt on a book Called Climate Change: Picturing the Science. and has done historic glacial retreat photographs.

8. 2013 We Green Westport Awards:

We are one month behind. Do we want to put them out again this year? Wait until the Fall? Typically we have done it in the summer.

It was agreed that we should continue with Awards program. Open it to the public and provide nominations forms and box at July 11 event. .

9. Other Business :

GVI wants GTF to announce grand opening of Reservoir Farm in Bridgeport (June 29th). It was felt that the GTF should support local community sustainability, and agreed to send out a Constant Contact invitation to 800+ email list.

There was a request for a Swap shop at transfer station. This is not feasible at the Transfer station because there is not enough parking. The concerned resident has been invited to attend a GTF meeting to discuss alternatives.

Meeting adjourned at 9:13pm.

Note: the next Task Force meeting will be on Monday, July 22nd at 7:30pm in room 309 at
Town Hall, 110 Myrtle Avenue, Westport, CT 06880

Submitted by:

Pippa Bell Ader
Member, GTF.