

**Sustainability Advisory Committee**  
**March 13, 2019**

**Present:** John Gorham, Deb Harrison, Emily Walton, Chuck Kabat, Virginia LeClair,  
Environmental Coordinator

**Guests:** Jena Gibson, David Ward, Joe Flanagan, Director of Public Works

C. Kabat motioned to open the meeting. All in favor.

**Minutes Review**

D. Harrison moved to accept the minutes of 2.13.19, C. Kabat second. All in favor.

**Update on Water in Dedham – Past, Present and Future**

D. Harrison provided an update on the Dedham Water Works Project. Discussing how the group had created an agenda for the day and went through numerous pictures in the archives.

J. Gorham asked how to market this – banner across High, theater marquee, social media, papers, electronic bill board, DSC and Square Scoop. D. Harrison asked Chuck to do an article on Water. The flyer will be sent to the schools. Could it be an insert in the DWWD billing? Or on webpage.

**Update from Plastic Bag Reduction Sub-Committee**

E. Walton described the enthusiasm on the Committee. She reviewed the DRAFT bylaw with the Committee.

D. Harrison mentioned plastic produce bags should swapped out or have an option for paper produce bags at grocery stores.

Next steps are presenting in front of Select board and other Boards and Committees. E. Walton asked the Sustainability Committee to attend once we have a date.

V. LeClair was working with the Health Department on the bylaw and enforcement.

C. Kabat talked about marketing and preparation for negative responses. We have Framingham's PowerPoint and C. Kabat will reach out to J. Flanagan for more micro data on plastic bags. J. Flanagan said it's a huge contaminant, we are at 24% contamination and he doesn't know how much is from Plastic Bags, but C. Kabat will email.

**Spring 5/18 Recycling Day Discussion**

The Committee reviewed the flyer. C. Kabat will make some changes to it.

The Committee next reviewed future events planned:

Earth Hour (March 30<sup>th</sup> @8:30pm) – V. LeClair has posted in the papers and on social media

Earth Day (April 22<sup>nd</sup>) – V. LeClair has sent flyer to the Schools, posted on social media, sent an email to town groups and departments and put in the paper for cleanups. She has also spoken with the High School and Middle School teachers and principals about events and ideas for the day/month. Christine Casali, AP Science teacher at the HS plans to celebrate Earth Month, as

well as lead two days of earth day cleanups with her classes walking from the school to various sites.

Arbor Day (April 27<sup>th</sup>) Discussion J. Flanagan is planning an event with Bartlett Tree at the Endicott Estate for 4/25. Bartlett Tree will talk about invasive species, insects and different type of popular trees around Dedham. They will also discuss the difference between shade trees and ornamental. J. Flanagan will look into getting seedlings for the event.

J. Flanagan also discussed the Public Shade tree planting program or back of the sidewalk program. Brookline has a similar program.

J. Flanagan said the DPW has planted 100 trees 2017 and around 40 in 2018.

### **Old/New Business**

The Committee reviewed the language for the Town Meeting warrant regarding the make-up of the Committee. D. Harrison discussed converting the HS position to an adult.

IECC – V. LeCLair updated the Committee on the International Energy Code and discussed having representatives from various boards and committees sign onto it and vote so as to help strengthen the code. The Committee was supportive of this idea.

D. Harrison summarized for the Committee actions at the Library where they partnered with Dedham Public Works on recycling education and created recycling charts. She said that the opening night had 70 people in attendance. In the future, Waste Management will come in and talk about recycling to increase awareness about what is recyclable. At Big Bear and Mocha Java they are going to start a raffle for a refillable mug, as well as you get your card punched, earning you a free drink after so many punches, if you have a reusable mug. The exhibit, Trash talk will run through June. Work with schools in the fall.

J. Gorham announced that the Rotary club is having a breakfast for employers looking to hire or someone looking for employment on Wednesday, March 27<sup>th</sup> at 7:30am at the MIT Endicott Estate.

### **Adjourn**

C. Kabat made a motion to adjourn. D. Harrison second. All in favor.