

Location and time: Westwood Town Hall, 7:30 pm

Members in attendance: Claire Galkowski (chair), Maria Costantini, Julie Gervais, Stephen Harte, and Pam Kane

Others in attendance: Juliana Belding, and Kate LaCroix

Routine Business

Approval of minutes. Minutes of the July 12, 2018, meeting were not ready for approval. It was agreed that S. Harte will develop the minutes using C. Galkowski notes. It was also agreed that all the approved minutes, agendas, and other relevant documents would be stored in a Google Drive.

Topics Discussed

Bag Ban by-law and presentation to the Board of Selectmen (BOS). M. Costantini and J. Gervais gave the presentation at their August 20 meeting. Explained that the ultimate goal is to discourage people from using single use bags (plastic or paper). Overall the idea of a ban was well accepted. The BOS made suggestions for ways to move forward. There was a discussion about ways to avoid the plastic bag ban from causing the use of more paper bags, such as putting more effort into education.

WEAC members discussed ways to discourage the disposal of plastic bags with the recyclable items, such as a plastic bag collection drive through the Boy & Girl Scouts and the distribution of stickers to put on recycling bins to residents to remind them not to put plastic bags with the recycling. The latter will require the support of DPW.

It was decided, as part of our effort to reach out to the local businesses, to contact and set up a meeting with Rick Roche (of Roche Brothers) to talk about their experience with the bag ban and express our concerns about single use bags.

Next steps:

M. Costantini will set up a meeting with DPW to talk about ways to educate people about disposable of plastic bags. Purpose of the meeting is to suggest mailing stickers to put on recycling carts to remind people to not put plastic bags with the recycling also the distribution of the flyer C. Galkowski designed. P. Kane will contact Eric at Norwood Printing to find out the cost of stickers for the bins.

J. Gervais will set up a meeting with Roche Brothers about plastic bags; will discuss ways to reduce distribution of plastic bags and encourage people to use reusable bags (such as signs in the parking lot).

Community Choice Aggregation. C. Galkowski (and S. Hart) reported that T. Philbin met with Mike Jaillet who was interested in moving forward. She also spoke with Eugenia Gibbons and agreed to help setting up a meeting with her, T. Philbin, M. Jaillet, and the CCA consultant - the matter will be brought to the BOS by T. Philbin and M. Jaillet in September or October; WEAC members will attend future public meetings to express support.

Next Steps. C. Galkowski and J. Belding will set up a meeting with Eugenia Gibbons, MACP contractor, M. Jaillet, and T. Philbin

Westwood Day. C. Galkowski discussed distributing flyers to educate the public to not put plastic bags with the recycling. Will need to discuss ideas with the Rec Dept staff.

Next Steps. C. Galkowski will talk to staff at the Rec Dept and will also ask for permission to display our signs (about plastic bags) at Westwood Day and have WEAC members at the town tent, if possible, to talk to residents. P. Kane will look for the signs

Westwood Recycling Day. DPW is deciding on a date. M. Costantini will stay in contact and report back to WEAC.

Glypohosphate Lawsuits - (Round up) - Monsanto has just settled a law suit for \$289 million - We will discuss more about the issue and how it affects Westwood in the future.

Next steps: put this topic on the next WAEC meeting agenda

New Business

Officer Elections: M. Costantini – chair; S. Harte – vice chair) J. Gervais – Secretary (K. La Croix will assist). K. La Croix will become effective after her formal appointment by the Board of Selectmen. It was decided that all future WEAC meetings will be held on the second Thursday of the month at Town Hall in the Selectmen Room.

Meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Next meeting will be on September 12, 2018, at 7:30 pm.