

**Westwood Environmental Action Committee**

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

**Members in attendance:** Maria Costantini (Chair), Julie Gervais (Secretary), Stephen Harte (Vice Chair), Claire Galkowski, Steven Shinopoulos,

**Others in attendance:** Stephen Olanoff, Paula McLaughlin (Hale Reservation), Rich de Reyna, Tyler Simpson (Hale Reservation).

**Routine Business**

Approval of minutes. Minutes from meeting of December 6 meeting were approved.

**Topics Discussed****• Earth Day Cleanup**

- Discussed plans for Earth Day 2019 with representatives from Hale Reservation. In 2019 the town hired Hale Reservation to administer the Westwood Community Trails program (WCTP). As part of that program they will also be organizing the annual Earth Day clean up. There was discussion on how to better engage the community in this event. WCTP will create and administer the Earth Day clean up website. The former website was [www.keepourtownclean.com](http://www.keepourtownclean.com). The clean up will include all areas of Westwood in need of clean up, not only trails.

- **Action Items:**

- WCTP to inform WEAC if they need support
- WCTP to contact Peter and Wendy about web site
- Steve H. and Stephen S. will attend the WCTP meetings

**• Bring your own bag month**

- Ideas were discussed for Bring Your Own Bag (BYOB) month, including approaching Westwood retailers and the Westwood library to distribute bags. It was discussed that we should order approximately 1,000 bags. It was proposed that May be the designated month. Members to observe and record customer bag choices before and after promotion. Suggestion to have a “Get caught holding the bag” program with prizes for randomly selected customers who bring their own bags.

- **Action Items:**

- Claire to research bag costs by the February meeting.
- Maria will speak with the Selectboard for approval.

**• Community Energy Aggregation (CEA)**

- CEA Warrant Article was presented at the Finance & Warrant Commission meeting. There will be two public hearings in March where warrant articles are presented.

- **Action Items:**

- Claire to contact Eugenia Gibbons from Green Energy Consumers Alliance and/or Stefano Loretto from GoodEnergy to come to the library and senior center presentations planned for March, as well as reserve the respective rooms.
- Steve H. to submit approved CEA content to the town newsletter and the Westwood Wire.

- **Items for Next Meeting.** Community Electricity Aggregation, Update on BYOB month, Earth Day Clean up (if needed), new business.

**Meeting adjourned at 9:52 p.m.**

**Next meeting will be on the 14<sup>h</sup> of February at 7:30 p.m.**