



Zero Waste Arlington May 2021 Meeting Minutes

Date: May 27, 2021

Time: 6:00 PM

Location: *Online Zoom Meeting*

Attendees:

Committee Members - Charlotte Milan, Larry Slotnick, Scott Mullen, Priya Sankalia, Meghan Correa, Jim Ballin, Emily Dertz.

Residents - Jeff Timperi, Jennifer Campbell, DeAnne Dupont, Margie Bell.

Minutes

Opened with the *Land Acknowledgement* statement

"We acknowledge that the Town of Arlington is located on the ancestral lands of the Massachusetts Tribe, the tribe of Indigenous peoples from whom the Colony, Province, and Commonwealth have taken their names. We pay our respects to the ancestral bloodline of the Massachusetts Tribe and their descendants who still inhabit historic Massachusetts territories today."

1. Introductions - new attendees DeAnne, Jeff, Jennifer, Margie
2. Priya read the land acknowledgement statement
3. The committee reviewed and approved April 2021 ZWA meeting minutes
4. Plastics - Larry thinks that our committee might not be very well placed to do anything radical since we are a town committee.
 - a. Emily described No Plastics Please campaign to the new attendees
 - b. Described how the Town believes that the restaurants are still under a lot of stress. Residents however want to move on this issue and we have discussed potentially moving on a version of this message
 - c. Emily and Priya shared the framework that Emily has created to start approaching the plastics issue
 - d. Margie Bell talked about her experience with her research with restaurants - we may have to approach it from the consumer perspective. The restaurants are not going to do it unless the consumer wants it - it is about the bottom line after all
 - e. Scott asked what is the specific ask of the restaurants? Emily talked about how they had envisioned different tiers (asking the consumer if

- they want the plastics; don't give it automatically; don't give away anything)
- f. Creating the demand by becoming influencers - we have the marketing material
 - g. Larry made some suggestions on how we could promote this information but we might have limitations being a committee
 - h. DeAnne suggested that we make a list of restaurants; list of questions - what can you ask a restaurant (tip sheet); can we be a member of the chamber of commerce (we would have access to contact info of other members and we could push something out if members). It is a couple of \$100 to be a member of the chamber
 - i. Emily and Meghan will reach out to Jennifer, Margie, and DeAnne for a subcommittee meeting
 - j. Are there any grants - DeAnne suggestion - if they met some criteria then they can get access to the \$\$
5. Earth to Arlington update - we're working on the 2nd webinar - Scott, Larry, and Priya provided an update
 6. Some suggestions from everyone
 - a. Presence of ZWA at Recycle Center
 - b. Table at the Farmers Market
 - c. Give aways - [bamboo utensil sets, brandable](#)
 - d. QR codes - we'll need to figure where they would lead - need a communications strategy.
 - e. We could hire someone and give them a stipend to put together a communications strategy and marketing campaign for NPP.
 - f. Vibrant Arlington, Support Arlington Center, Arlington List
 - g. Low plastic month - challenge - end with a plastic-free picnic Meghan idea.

Meeting adjourned at 7:28pm