



Zero Waste Arlington March 2022 Meeting Minutes

Date: 3/24/22

Time: 7:00

Location: *Online Zoom Meeting*

Attendees:

Members: Larry Slotnick, Sarah Kmetz, Jeff Timperi, Paul Goldberg, Emily Dertz, Jim Ballin, Jennifer Campbell, Charlotte Milan, Scott Mullen

Residents: Julie Benyo, Drew Koleros, Anna Muoio, Peter McLoughlin, Amy Speare, Shannon Lindlau

The meeting opened with a *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."

Agenda:

1. Old Business
 - a. Review and approve February 2022 ZWA meeting minutes
2. New Business
 - a. Introductions of new attendees.
 - b. Vote on MA expanded bottle bill (Paul): Paul providing an update on the State legislation, which is being pushed by MassPIRG. MassPIRG would like to have an endorsement from Zero Waste Arlington. Committee voted 7-0 to endorse the bill. Paul will take care of the mechanics of the endorsement. Wants names of businesses we talked to regarding the bottled water ban that support Bottle Bill expansion.
 - c. Water Bottle Article update - Jennifer spoke about the Select Board presentation. SB voted 5-0 to support the Article. She's very please, and know that more outreach needs to be done before Town Mtg. Larry was pleasantly surprised that a couple of SB members spoke of the need for a cultural shift. Jim added his sense that SB members didn't want to stand in the way of the issue being debated at Town Mtg, and that the article is far from a slam dunk.

- d. Website design update - Larry and Amy updated group. Amy had tech issues that night, so Larry provided background about taking on this project. Committee has approved \$1800. Designer Caroline Cohen has been retained and is starting March 24. Will be a 2-phased project. Amy is leading the subcommittee on Functionality and Content development.
- e. Town communication policy review - In light of the new website, Charlotte discussed Town policy regarding how ZWA communicates. Can't run contrary to Town goals. There will be some restrictions on content. Diversity is important. Privacy. Adhering to IP/Copyright laws. Charlotte forwarding the policy for our review.
- f. Webinar planning update - Larry provided an overview of Earth to Arlington for the benefit of the newcomers. Scott chimed in but we had no substantive updates.
- g. Story of Plastics screening at Capitol Theater (3-17-2022) was a success with around 50 attendees. There seems to be demand for additional screenings. Cost is \$125. Maybe EcoWeek. Emily suggested screening segments of it in sort of a book club format because the film is 1.5 hours running time.
- h. No Plastics Please update - Emily provided background on the program going back to pre-pandemic. She was describing less of an emphasis on direct action with restaurants and more passive activity building a database-directory of restaurants that calls out less-waste practices. Charlotte recommended simply assigning ZWA volunteers 5 restaurants each to visit-research and then log the information into the database.
- i. Recycling Coordinator update - EcoWeek is coming up. Charlotte is looking for ZWA members-helpers to table at EcoWeek events. That could be all she needs. Reminder about the May 1 Fix-It Clinic. Looking for coaches. Co-located at Thompson School with a Clothing Swap. Also Cecily Miller event celebrating the end of Michelle Lougee's public art exhibit. May 10 event at the Regent for another film of a modern puppetry show. Reminder : Statewide ban Nov 1 for mattresses and Textiles. Arlington is still seeking vendors to bid on these services.

Meeting adjourned 8:30