



Zero Waste Arlington February 2023 Meeting Minutes - Approved

Date: 02/23/2023

Time: 7:00

Location: *Online Zoom Meeting*

Attendees:

Members: Priya Sankalia, Larry Slotnick, Jim Ballin, Scott Mullen, Charlotte Milan, Paul Goldberg

Residents: Anju Joglekar,

Minutes:

1. The committee approved the January 2023 minutes.
2. Introductions - committee
3. Legislative subcommittee
 - a. Paul met with the staff of Rep Rogers to put ourselves as a committee on their radar. Number of ideas came out of the meeting - how can we be connected with the general court other than contact with representatives
 - i. There is a zero waste caucus - focused on solid waste legislation - Michele Cicolo (Lexington) is on it.
 - ii. New chairs on the joint committee on natural resources and ag - eyeball all the bills we're interested in.
 - iii. We could try to connect with groups or committees and the chairs. Constituent committees of the districts - they will respond to people within their districts
 - iv. Reach out to other community groups - e.g. sustainable belmont
 - b. Mully has a running list of the bills - https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1MS_r7KR-P4OkqcAkYh42UzNmQu8lo6JEp3NIQaOal08/edit#gid=925121332
 - c. Restaurant waste, expanded bottle bill, EPR bills, paper and packaging, mattresses and paint (have the most momentum)
 - d. What does the committee care about (which bills)? What actions can we take/would we be able to - legislative subcommittee will brainstorm
 - e. Cambridge and Newton have asked Charlotte to be more involved in EPR work. Charlotte reminded us that we put in a warrant article (resolution) to support EPR. Paul said that it was a good thing that we put this together -
 - f. Jim - wants to work with the subcommittee; he hopes that EPR legislation would include packaging; wants to work on the resolution.

- g. Larry talked about potentially gathering real world data on the effects of implementation of particular legislation (e.g. bottled water). This is to be seen as a results oriented or action oriented. Jim idea - maybe we can do a survey
- h. Paul - blogs, ask google group to advocate
- 4. NPP Update
 - a. Restaurant outreach has been good. Policies have already been adopted for various reasons - they do want to act in their own financial interests (e.g. give extra stuff if it's asked for)
- 5. Priya an update on the communications subcommittee
 - a. Food waste is the theme for the first half of the year - blogs, webinars, FB posts etc.
 - b. Charlotte said we should co-sponsor a webinar that Cambridge is hosting April 11 - recycling storytellers. Adam Mintner (e-waste recycler); Meera Singh (recycling in India); MassDEP. Attend and promote. ZWA agreed to promote and co-sponsor.
- 6. Charlotte update
 - a. Fix-it clinics on the calendar (Robbins Library) - community room. 4-6 a year. March 25th 2:30 - 4:30; May 6th.
 - b. Larry suggestion - do some Fix It clinic outreach - ACMi - show as success story
 - c. EoFest - environmental spring season of activities - a lot of individual events. Shredding, bike donation, litter cleanup, invasive weed pulls - opportunity for tabling. An artist who has an extruder and art can be made out of it. You can put the plastic in and the device will shred and extrude it.
- 7. Events
 - a. Janet O'Reardon has offered us a spot for the Heights June Fest - tabling opportunity. June 10

Meeting adjourned at 8:33 PM