



Zero Waste Arlington July 2024 - Meeting Minutes

Date: 07/18/24

Time: 7pm

Location: Location: 51 Grove Street Arlington MA; 2nd floor conference room

Attendees: Priya Sankalia, Larry Slotnick, Paul Goldberg, Scott Mullen, Jennifer Campbell, Emily Dertz, Margie Bell, Jim Ballin, Charlotte Milan

Minutes submitted by: Jennifer

Agenda

1. Old Business
 - a. Review and approve April, May, and June 2024 ZWA meeting minutes.
2. New Business
 - a. ZWA Co-chair vote
 - b. Beer Garden update
 - c. Subcommittee updates
 - d. FY 2025 Calendar planning
 - e. Miscellaneous Topics

Minutes

1. Old Business
 - a. Reviewed and approved April, May, and June 2024 ZWA meeting minutes:
 - i. April: unanimous vote of approval (8 Yes, 0 No, 1 abstention)
 - ii. May: unanimous vote of approval (6 Yes, 0 No, 2 abstentions)
 - iii. June: unanimous vote of approval (6 Yes, 0 No, 1 abstention)
2. New Business
 - a. Committee voted on Jim Ballin and Jennifer Campbell as the new ZWA Co-chairs (8 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstention) with one-year terms.

New Co-chair Goals:
 - Rotate the job of taking meeting notes/minutes – Jennifer circulated a sign up sheet.

- Aim to circulate and post minutes on Google drive immediately following the monthly meeting. Circulate agenda to committee the week before; send agenda to Charlotte for posting on the Town website the Monday of the meeting week.
- b. **Beer Garden update:** Sarah, Emily, Margie, Amy ran the pilot event on 7/11/24 - washed 700 cups and eliminated use of about 1,000 cups in total including refills (per the Board of Health, refills are fine because the brewery uses contactless pours). High adherence to returns; lost a small number (about 50) due to breakage, theft and misc. Great success and enthusiastic public response. Cups were washed at the UU church and picked up the next morning; they are now being stored at Emily's house.

Future action items:

- Extra volunteers (4 total) are needed during closing, around 8:30pm. Emily will talk to Sarah about circulating a signup sheet for the upcoming beer garden events.
- Can we get the vendors to help pay for this effort to support the cost? 15 cents per cup, plus volunteer labor: 1.5 hours of washing and 3 additional event hours.
- Next year have a budget item for the costs of cups/washing. Then vendors could pay for this cost.

Committee voted on approving up to \$450 for 2 budget items for the Beer Garden events (8 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstention)

- Washing facility rental - \$50 per event x 5 event for \$250 total
- Cup labels - up to \$200

c. **Subcommittee updates**

Legislative:

- Paul sent a message to the ZWA Google Group with an update on the Expanded Bottle Bill: The Senate recently passed an Omnibus Climate Bill which included a Bottle Bill (Amendment 67) and yearly reporting on the Bottle Bill (Amendment 67.1). However, the House Ways and Means Committee released an Omnibus Climate Bill that does not include the Bottle Bill. A six legislator conference committee will likely be appointed that will decide the final language of the Climate Bill. Once the conference committee is appointed, we will send out an alert to contact Sen Friedman and Reps Garballey and Rogers to ask them to call Senate President Spilka and Speaker Mariano and the conference committee members to support the Bottle Bill. Paul is working on action alert language to share once House conferees are announced, perhaps before this weekend but not clear. Priya will send out the alert to the Google group and post it on Facebook.

Mully is also drafting a letter to House leadership urging they take action on the plastics reduction bill that the Senate sent over last week.

Arlington on Tap:

- Jim: \$50K from Sean Garballey has been spent on the 3 refill stations at the Reservoir, Thorndike/Magnolia field,, and Hurd Field. The Swan Place unit is privately run and is operating; Larry is handling maintenance. Every unit has signage. Robbins Farm park will have one as one as part of their renovation plan.

Future action items:

- Once we get through the current season and see how reliable the units are, we will initiate a discussion with the Town about additional units and funding.
 - Good potential future location: Thompson School / North Union Park (Luciano playground)
- d. FY 2025 Calendar planning – We will hold a planning session for the upcoming year after Town Day. We discussed adding the role of Treasurer to keep track of budget and expenses. Make this a 1 year rotating position. Emily is nominated; we will vote at the next meeting (and open nominations to any other committee member who is interested who was not here tonight).

Future ideas to consider:

- providing more input on solid waste efforts, be more like an advisory committee for Town policy
 - solutions to food waste
 - comprehensive hauler regulation to encourage recycling by Town restaurants
- e. Miscellaneous Topics

Charlotte's DPW report:

- Currently focused on RFP process for 5 year contract for hauling. Bids due 7/24/24. Bids will include a la carte pricing for trash hauling, recycling hauling and processing, providing totes, and curbside organic pickup and processing.. Jim asked if these bids are private/confidential before final selection is made (i.e. whether ZWA can read them and provide input); Charlotte isn't sure. Mike R and the town manager make the final decision, with input from Charlotte.

- Paint recycling fundraisers happening at Ryder Street between July 24- July 30

Town Day planning (9/21/24):

- Town Day application – August 1 deadline?
- Emily is working on the application; we will try to coordinate locations between ZWA booth, water truck, and reduce single use station.
- Jennifer, Emily, and Larry will meet to work on the application.

Meeting adjourned at 8:31

Next meeting: Thursday, August 15, 2024 Minute taker: Emily