



TOWN OF WEST HARTFORD

MEETING MINTUES

West Hartford Clean Energy Commission

November 19, 2018

7:00 PM

Rm 422

1. Roll Call 7:05 PM

Member	Present	Alternates	Present
Catherine Diviney	Yes	Robert Palmer	No
Chris Nelson	Yes	Dave Mello	Yes
Joe Campanella	Yes	James Capella	Yes
Bernie Pelletier	Yes		
Max DuBuisson	Yes		
Total	(3 needed for quorum)		
Additional Attendees	Katherine Bruns, Steve Sack, Jim Henkel, Samantha Dynowski, Ted Loewenthal, Samantha Peikes		

2. Approval of Minutes

- a. October 15, 2018 – Minutes approved

3. Communications/Administration/Upcoming Events

- a. Oct 22 - Sustainable CT debrief – the session went well with good discussion of the program. West Hartford's bronze designation was achieved by documenting past and current activities. At the next WH-CEC meeting the group will discuss what actions to pursue to achieve (hopefully) a silver designation. It was recommended that some analysis be done of the actions other Towns completed to see what WH could "copy."

VOTE: The WH-CEC vote unanimously to support going for Sust CT silver certification in 2019.
- b. Nov 8 - PACE, Time for 100%! Mark Jacobson debrief – the meeting was well attended with some members of the Connecticut legislature in attendance. Based on follow-up discussions it would appear the Connecticut could make meaningful strides towards 100% renewable energy over the next few decades. It was noted that Ned Lamont – governor elect – has (independently) made 100% renewable energy part of his platform.
- c. Nov 27 - Posigen Solar for All workshop @ Charter Oak – several additional workshops have been scheduled and Posigen is getting licensed for door to door in person solicitation. See attached flyer.
- d. 2019 meeting dates – meeting dates for January 2019 through January 2020 were approved by the commission. See attached list.

4. Business

- a. Plastic Bag Ban
 - Open Letters – student, community
 - i. The Sedgwick students have finalized an open letter in support of a ban that will be emailed internally to WHPS for signatures. Deb Morton is going to revise that letter slightly for the community and figure out a platform (google docs, Patch, etc.) to distribute it for signatures.

- Trex Recycling Challenge – schools
 - i. The above activities have been adopted by all but 5 of WH schools. Catherine is planning to reach out and see if the 5 schools would like to participate.
- b. 2018 Special Events Reports
 - Business Outreach
 - i. Chamber of Commerce Letter & Education Seminar – **Joe Campanella, James Capella>>>** Joe Campanella reports that the Chamber has sent out an email to restaurants. Early feedback is that because we are in the holiday “zone” that it may be best to start pushing in the new year. Doug Lombardi – has joined the chamber and has had a meeting with Barbara Lerner of the chamber.
 - ii. CPACE/Green Bank letter – **Catherine Diviney, Bernie Pelletier** – After some delays – this letter has been signed and returned to the GB for distribution.
 - Solar Campaign – **Dan Tavelli, Aaron Hills, Bernie Pelletier**
 - i. PR blurb (draft) – Catherine is going to find the draft we’d written up and hopefully get it out by year end, adding some information about on-bill green power options.
 - ii. Posigen – flyer/multiple events – distribution - see attached flyer. Anything people can do to spread the word is appreciated.
 - Recycling / Food Waste – **Chris Nelson.** Erin McFarland
 - i. WHPS activity – 2019 - no straws!
 - ii. Nov 15 email reminders – WHPS and Townwide emails were sent on America/CT Recycles Day to remind staff to recycle properly. Links to Recycle CT’s What’s In, What’s out? and the Charter Oak school waste audit report were included.
 - iii. Charter Oak Waste Audit – Charter Oak recently conducted a waste audit/education exercise with all the students and staff analyzing and weighting their waste for one day and seeing what they could do better in terms of recycling. Over 200 lbs of waste, including a lot of unopen edible food. Catherine will send email with link to report
 - iv. Hartford Courant article – Chris Nelson reports that even though China is not receiving our paper and plastic waste materials new processing plants are opening the US to produce pulp and plastic raw material – so that the current disruption in the recycling market should be temporary.
 - Community TV Spots – **Dave Mello, Joe Campanella, Matt Macunas, Bernie Pelletier.** The Efficiency Maine – video on Heat Pumps has been shown dozens of time on WH TV. Chris Nelson has some recycling videos that we can show as well.
- c. 100PercentCT Project & Energy Plan - Catherine has shared a draft which will be updated in time for the next meeting in December.
- d. Sierra Club working in WH to promote “Ready for 100” - Samantha Dynowski discussed Sierra Club’s plan to launch a community program to advance the “Ready for 100” program in West Hartford. On December 12 she will be hosting a movie and discussion entitled “Reinventing Power.” Catherine asked her to document event as a Sust CT Sustainability event.
- e. POCD
 - Working Session debrief - Catherine – Bernie – Joe attended a POCD session. A key takeaway is the our Municipal and Community Energy Plan will be referenced in the POCD allowing us to keep the POCD current and have our plan integrated into the 10-year plan.

- f. "Energy" sister city task force - Matt Hart shared a draft resolution to set up a taskforce – reporting into the WH CEC – to identify an energy / sustainability sister city.
- g. Other – discussion was started about having 10-minute informational sessions as part of each CEC meeting. Steve Sack – offered to provide an over view of Bio Heat – an oil product that uses organic waste from cooking and oil producing plants to produce a more sustainable oil fuel.

5. Adjournment Meeting Adjourned at 8:40 PM