MINUTES
SUSTAINABILITY TEAM MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2026
6:30PM
MEETING ROOM 3

1. Call to Order 6:47pm by Tanya Bourgoin, late start due to technical and quorum difficulties.
    a. Present in person: Tanya Bourgoin, Tom Sevigny, Jay Fortner, Alan Ponanski, First Selectman Todd Gelson, guests Peter Millman (PACE) and Marie. Via Zoom: Nora Myers, Amalia Shaltiel
2. Approval of Agenda – not done
3. Approval of December meeting minutes – not done
4. PACE presentation by Peter Millman: Thermal Energy Networks
5. Co-Chair Reports
    a. Ms. Bourgoin – tabled
    b. Ms. Shaltiel – sent team members an update for our webpage, asked for feedback. Mr. Oakes provided comments, will be given to Linda Zemienski to update. Made a poster for Mr. Ponanski's upcoming workshop, looking for responses so it can be uploaded to Facebook. An upcoming Zoom on collaborating with Pollinators with East Hampton, invited team members to join. Another upcoming Zoom focused on ways to reduce cost of waste management with RiverCOG. Mr. Ponanski mentioned Doug Tallamy webinar in early February.
6. Membership and Admin
    a. Old Business: Report on activities since last meeting.
7. New Business: New initiatives
    a. Theme (Alan Ponanski):
        i. Vibrant ecosystems
            1. Plan native seeds workshop 1/31– Susan Kinsman. Pollinator pathway meeting with East Hampton and Lyme sustainability teams on 1/28 9AM via Zoom
        ii. Homegrown National Parks - tabled
            1. Present Douglas Tallamy checklist – Lower CT Valley Land Trust
        iii. Regional Waste Management
            1. Reuse & repurpose holiday items – RiverCOG RWA consultants. workshop on 1/26, room 201 East Hampton town hall (also available via Zoom)
    b. 2026 Heritage Market (Amalia Shaltiel)
8. Volunteers and Liaison reports – not discussed
9. Audience of Citizens - none
10. Announcements
11. Next meeting Thurs 2/5/26 6:30PM *Note observation of new meeting day (first Thursday instead of third Tuesday).*
12. Adjournment –Amalia moved, Nora 2nd.

Public participants may come to the meeting or view the meeting on YouTube Live at the following link: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCLZq-CmatoKY6FW829c6mBA?view_as=subscriber

You may also access the YouTube Live link from the Town's website: www.easthaddam.org

Questions/comments may be sent to sustainability.team@easthaddam.org prior to and during the meeting.

Questions/comments will be read aloud during the "Audience of Citizens" section of the meeting.

Questions/comments and responses will be included in the minutes and posted on the town website.

Every effort will be made to provide responses during the meeting.