AGENDA
SUSTAINABILITY TEAM MEETING
TUESDAY, APRIL 15, 2025
7:00PM
MEETING ROOM 3

1. **Call to Order** 7:19PM
    a. In attendance in person: Tanya Bourgoin. Virtual: Amalia Shaltiel, Amber McDonnell, Jesse Scott, David Oakes, Kayle Lopez. Guest: Jamie Damato.
2. **Approval of Agenda**: Ms. Shaltiel motioned, Ms. McDonnell second. All in favor. Agenda approved.
3. **Approval of March 18th meeting minutes**: Ms. Shaltiel motioned, Ms. Lopez second. All in favor, agenda approved.
4. **Co-Chair Reports**
    a. Ms. Bourgoin met with Dr. Northcutt and Dr. Debrito with the public schools, they are excited about a collaboration in the new school year. Still looking to set up a meeting at the foam recycling plant. Will be meeting with Erin from St. Stephens on 5/6 to discuss ways we can assist them; they are looking for help in crowdfunding or other financing options for fixing their outdoor walkway. Jamie Damato emailed us about Eco Challenge, a free platform where you sign up, can join a team or individually, and select the daily actions and keep track of them to earn points. Create custom actions. https://about.ecochallenge.org/ecochallenge-platform/how-it-works/ Benevity is a centralized platform where companies are set up to donate to charity as a reward for volunteer efforts. https://benevity.com . Ms. Bourgoin was asked by BOS to push cans and bottle recycling for Earth Day, will create posters to be used at Earth Day events and beyond.
    b. Ms. Shaltiel met with RiverCOG, PACE and other towns participating in HES (Chester, Portland, Deep River, East Hampton), waiting on approval of Community Partnership Initiative (CPI) funds from Eversource. Also working on Earth Day initiatives, gathering info on all events, wrote an article for the paper. She continues to work on the gold certification, running into technical issues and needs an equity statement from BOE or BOS ASAP. Also working on a summary of the most recent community conversation (Volunteer Fair), building a list of email contacts.
5. **Team Reports**:
    i) Energy Assessments, Heat Pumps Campaign, Heat Smart (Jesse Scott, Amber McDonnell) – we have not heard from Irene/Linda re: MOU, letter to residents. Tanya will bring this up during BOS meeting tomorrow.
    ii) Composting (Kayle Lopez, Tanya Bourgoin, Amalia Shaltiel) – Tanya will draft a simple petition to reinstate the Blue Earth Compost contract
    iii) Recycling Initiatives (Tanya Bourgoin) – *see co-chair report*
    iv) Equity Conversations (Amalia Shaltiel) - *see co-chair report*
    v) Initiatives in 2025 (Tanya Bourgoin, Amalia Shaltiel, Amber McDonnell)
        (1) Community Conversations – next one will be the last Saturday of June
        (2) Earth Day Celebration and Compost workshop - Earth Day Celebration at Town Beach Sunday 4/27 12PM-4PM. Compost workshop @ Balleks 11AM-12PM.
        (3) Repair Café – Saturday May 10th
        (4) Heritage Market – 5/7 3PM-6PM at The Grange. Will continue first Wednesday of the month May through Sept

6. **Communications survey** - Still doing the survey, more than 50 have responded, most people prefer info via newspaper or email

Note: remaining agenda items were not discussed due to time constraint. Loss of quorum at 7:20PM.

7. **Next meeting May 20, 2025 at 7:00 pm**

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.