

**Town of Washington
Sustainability Committee
Minutes- March 13th, 2024**

5:00 Meeting via Zoom and Main Level Meeting Room

Members Present: Monique Gil-Rogers, Amy Dyer, Hugh Rogers, Carole Matteo
Members Absent: Brian Hagenbuch, Jay Hubelbank
Staff Present: Michelle Gorra
Visitors: Ann Jamieson

1. **Call to Order: 5:02**
2. **Approval of minutes:** February 14 meeting minutes, Carole made a motion to accept the minutes, Monique seconded, all voted in favor.
3. **Earth Day and the Newsletter:**
 - Michelle reached out to New Milford Print Works and found paper that is 100 percent recycled paper instead of our usual 30 percent recycled. She is planning on using this for the Earth Day Newsletter and also going to print on the bottom of the newsletter made from 100% recycled paper. Monique and Hugh have both finished their articles for the newsletter, as well as Brian.
 - Michelle and Jay met last week and they're going to work on getting data from the Transfer Station to include for the newsletter. Michelle mentioned we should also promote roadside cleanup, and water testing in this newsletter.
 - For the Earth Day event, Monique stated that WEC has allotted \$400 towards the well water testing. The first 25 people will have \$15 taken off their well testing. Montessori will have a booth, Shepaug High School / students who are doing senior projects.
 - The event will be from 9 – 2 at Judy Black Park and we will have the dumpster in front of the town hall. Washington Supply is planning on donating garbage bags and will be able to pick them up in front of the town hall. Jim Brinton mentioned he would have the Highway Department help anyway they can, possibly put garbage bags on the side of the road for people to use and leave their full garbage bags for the highway department to come pick up.
4. **Other Business to come before the Committee-** The committee discussed pesticides and how to teach the community of simple actionable ways to treat their lawn without using chemicals on it. Amy mentioned she saw a sign in Litchfield for the No Idling Campaign that says “No Unnecessary Idling Permitted” If we have money in our budget this might be a good idea to have on schools. It was small and effective. Possibly a small metal permanent sign in the plaza.
5. **Public Comment-** none
6. **Adjournment** Carole made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:59 PM, All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,
Amanda Reale
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Sustainability Clerk

Recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HzYbru-yIE>