

**Green Committee, Town of East Haddam
Regular Meeting
River House
7:00 P.M. Wednesday, May 4, 2011**

1. Call to Order

The meeting was officially called to order at 7:05 by Chairman Ken Simon
The Green Committee will hold regular meetings on the first Wednesday of the month until further notice.

A. Attendance:

Regular members present: Martha Hansen, Nancy Pincus, Ken Simon, Chad Peterson ,
Regular members absent: Yvonne Rubin, Terri Smith, Sue Staehly, Jean Breuler
Guests: Scott Mackinnon, Julie Piontkowski

2. Secretary's Report

Approval of 4-6-2011 minutes

The minutes were discussed

Chad Peterson moved to accept the minutes as presented, Nancy Pincus seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

3. Committee Membership – update

The Green Committee is authorized to have 11 regular members and 2 alternates. No more than 2/3 of the members can be from one political party. There is currently space for 3 regular members and 2 alternates.

Yvonne Rubin will be resigning from the Committee, making the total number of members 7.

4. Member's Reports

A. Community Food Bank Garden update- sign, banner, volunteers

The garden will be expanded to 34' x 28', double its present size. Volunteers are needed on May 14 & 15 from 10am to 4pm, to help remove sod and till the new area, and also on May 21 & 22 for planting and fence installation. Help is also needed evenings and weekends for regular maintenance – weeding, watering, harvesting, etc. The Daisy Scouts and Boy Scouts will be helping out also.

B. Grass Roots Environment Fund Grant/Reusable Bag Project update

The Grist Mill and Nathan Hale Pharmacy still have plenty of bags, and there are still some left in our inventory. The Town Clerk purchased some to give out to new residents.

C. Newsletter –Next edition

The May/June newsletter is being prepared.

D. Grants and Grant Project possibilities – no update

5. Audience of Citizens

Scott Mackinnon and Julie Piontkowski attended the meeting. There was a discussion about how to encourage town residents to grow vegetable gardens, perhaps using simple garden starter kits.
Recycling and repurposing was discussed. Julie Piontkowski suggested that people be encouraged to save items that could be used by teachers at the schools. She suggested contacting teachers to see what they need.

6. General Discussion

A. Green Committee web page/Facebook

Chad Peterson will check into setting up a Facebook page for the Green Committee.

B. “Victory Garden” awareness, utilization & implementation (planting, canning, food storage)

No update.

C. Single Stream Recycling, zero-waste

There will be an article in the newsletter about recycling and repurposing items.

7. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 1, 2011 at 7:00 P.M.

8. Adjournment

Chad Peterson made a motion, seconded by Nancy Pincus, to adjourn the meeting at 8:45. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Hansen, Secretary