

The April 17, 2018, meeting opened at 4:00. Present were Marj Wexler (Chair), Richard Allen, Susan Bachelder, Corinna Barnard, Robin Goldberg, Juliette Haas, and Pat Konecky.

Minutes of the 3/20/18 meeting were approved.

Egremont Recycles Day 2018: Our 10th annual event set a record for pounds of trash weighed in: 937. At least 100 bags were collected by at least 100 volunteers. Deposit bottles and cans were redeemed for \$68, which came close to paying for our pizza supper (4 Brothers, yum). Three additional volunteers helped sort the trash on Saturday: Lydia Littlefield, Nancy Richardson, and Lucinda Vermeulen. All three were impressed by how much fun it was. Note: 104 Cointreau nips and 4 tires found. We agreed that we need a minimum of 4 people to sort per shift. The pizza supper (thank you to the SoEg Congregational Church) was also a success. Pat had her electric Bolt at Town Hall, but not many people asked to see it. Next year we may try to have another brand so people can compare.

Town-wide electricity savings: Juliette had sent us an email on March 22, describing the Town's savings as a result of electric aggregation. The program had a sign-up rate of 70%, so 650 Egremont meters. In sum, since the program's inception 9 months ago, 6,200,000 lb of CO₂ was not produced. The number is probably higher because some residents use different electric suppliers with a green energy supply.

Pollinator community resolution: The EGC voted unanimously to endorse the resolution brought to a recent seminar at Town Hall by the Ag Commission. Marj will tell them. Although it is nonbinding, the resolution encourages residents to adopt pollinator-friendly measures such as avoiding pesticide use, planting pollinator-friendly plants, and reducing lawn mowing.

Berkshire Edge articles: We agreed that we don't need to produce an article every month. Corinna will write about pollinators (see above), perhaps including information about the Greenagers' gardens at French Park. Juliette's "waste line" article will be in July.

Bottles and cans collection: March and April funds will go to Greenagers; Board member David Sheehan has been helping. May & June collections will go to Council on Aging, and Friends of Prospect Lake will take July. Marcia Arland, Corinna, Pat, and Robin will help once a month, but we still need more. Marj will email the Eg-Recycles roadside clean-up people, and Pat will draft a request to be left on the table at the May 1 Annual Town Meeting.

Sustainability Coordinator: At a brief, posted meeting at Mom's on 4/12, attendees voted unanimously to endorse the creation of the position of a Berkshire County Sustainability Coordinator, and Marj so informed Lauren Gaherty of the BRPC.

Other matters: Richard asked if \$500 was sufficient to fund the compostables revolving account, and members agreed it was.

Richard also suggested that the Eg-Recycles roadside clean-up volunteers be encouraged to "adopt" their roadsides for year-round clean-up. We agreed that this was a good idea and thought that many people do it already. Marj will write an eco-tip in the Newsletter encouraging residents to carry a trash bag when they walk.

Marj will follow up with Oriana Reilly of MCAN about possibly coming to our June meeting.

*Meeting adjourned 4:56 pm. Next meeting will be Tuesday, **May 15, 4:00 PM.***

Submitted by Marj Wexler, Sec'y