

July 23, 2019

The Plastic Bags and Straws Ad Hoc Committee held a special meeting on this date at Stonington Human Services at 6:00 p.m. Present were Moira Deasy, Erika Lebling Beth Markowski-Roop, Farrah Garland, Stacey Wilbur and Don Kluberanz. Thaler Hefel, Jason Hine, and Stephanie Hayes-Houlihan were not present.

(1) Call to Order

Ms. Deasy called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

(2) Pledge of Allegiance

(3) Comments from the Public

None

(4) Approval of the Minutes

Having sent the minutes from the July 9, 2019 meeting to the committee prior to this meeting, the committee was able to review. A motion was made by Ms. Markowski-Roop, seconded Ms. Garland, and passed unanimously to accept the minutes.

(5) Correspondence

Ms. Lebling reported that three logos had been submitted as a part of the Stonington Reuses logo contest.

Ms. Deasy reported that Judy Benson from CT SeaGrants, part of UCONN Avery Point, had contacted her to interview her for an op-ed she is writing for the New London Day about grassroots environmental efforts. Ms. Deasy asked the committee to research the grant opportunities available through CT SeaGrants.

(6) Old Business

Presentation – Ms. Deasy Will Report on the Budget

Ms. Deasy reported that no money had been spent yet.

Discussion- The Committee Will Review the Logo Contest Progress

The committee discussed the Logo Contest voting that will take place at the Mystic Arts Festival. Ms. Deasy reported that she secured a partnership with Big Y to receive 500 reusable bags to hand out at the Festival. The committee's booth is in spot 551, and will be staffed by one committee member and one Big Y employee. The Festival runs 9am-6pm on Saturday and 9am-5pm on Sunday. Ms. Markowski-Roop has a table and a peg board back drop, and will take care of festival logistics with Ms. Garland and Ms. Wilbur. Mr. Kluberanz will set up and staff the booth on Saturday morning. Ms. Garland will staff on Sunday morning, and Ms. Markowski-Roop will staff Sunday afternoon. Mr. Garland suggested having a binder present with articles, pictures, FAQs and the ordinance. Mr. Kluberanz will help organize this binder.

The committee had a discussion of changing the deadline for the contest from July 31 to August 7. A motion was made by Ms. Garland, seconded by Ms. Markowski-Roop and passed unanimously to

change the deadline of the logo contest to August 7th at 5pm. Ms. Garland said she would redo the flyer so the committee could redistribute. She would also make a QR code flyer for the Mystic Art Festival, so people could cast votes with their phones. It was determined that voting would close on Wednesday, August 14th.

Discussion – The Will Decide on Reusable Bags (possible action item)

Ms. Deasy recommended researching CT SeaGrants to find if the committee's budget could be expanded prior to committing to a certain type of bag.

Discussion – Committee Members Will Give Updates on Outstanding Action Items.

The Committee discussed action items that had been completed since the last meeting. Many of the members with action items were absent from this meeting, so their updates were pushed to the next meeting.

Ms. Markowski-Roop reported that she had a meeting with Suzanne Harley of Green Planet Films, who has offered to help design marketing materials for the committee to give to local businesses in advance of the ordinance taking effect. Ms. Markowski-Roop will meet with Ms. Harley to begin drafting the materials; however, nothing will be completed until the logo is decided on and can be added.

(7) New Business

Discussion – The Committee Will Discussion Action Items to Complete Before the Next Meeting.

Ms. Deasy will complete the following: Distribute Sea Grant link to the committee, follow up with Big Y, follow up with Stop & Shop, organize the press release for the logo contest, circulate the new contest flyer to Mystic Chamber.

Ms. Garland will complete the following: Update the flyer, connect with Mr. Kluberdanz regarding the binder for the Mystic Arts Festival, Create a QR code sign for voting at the Art Festival, and schedule Facebook and Instagram posts.

Ms. Markowski-Roop will complete the following: Prepare materials for the Art Festival (table, tent, etc.), meet with Ms. Harley to discuss/design business marketing materials, distribute new flyer to Ocean Community Chamber of Commerce, and send Ms. Garland links to social media content.

Mr. Kluberdanz will complete the following: Compile articles, ordinance, FAQs and pictures for Art Festival binder, find and circulate to the committee the news article about the Mystic Aquarium grant, compile a list of relevant articles posted to the Stonington Forum, and bring ice bucket and jars to the Art Festival.

The full committee will complete the following: Circulate the new logo contest flyer, and review the CT SeaGrant application.

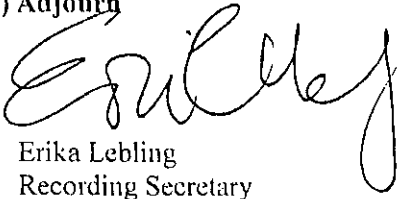
(8) Comments from the Public

None

(9) Comments from the Committee

None

(10) Adjourn

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Erika Lebling". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping "E" and a long, trailing "y" or "g" at the end.

Erika Lebling
Recording Secretary