

## Manchester Sustainability Committee Meeting 9/16/21 Minutes

Present: Bella Wright, Amy Lee Connors, Nadia Wetzler, Alison Anholt-White (Chair), Guest Tim Collins

1. Approved the minutes from 9/16/2021 meeting.
2. **Rotary Club support.** Tim Collins announced that the Manchester Essex Rotary has generously donated \$6k to the cause of sustainability. \$5k will go to Black Earth Compost fundraiser and \$1k to the Sustainability Committee, as well as c 200 volunteer hours to benefit curbside composting education. Discussion of how to use the \$1k- possibly donation of counter top bins, biodegradable bags to go in bins. The Chair expressed gratitude on behalf of the committee for this generous donation. We intend to collaborate with Rotary and other organizations including Seaside Sustainability and the MERHS Green Team, to further advance our goal of community education and marketing of our sustainability mission.
3. **Suscomm table outside Post Office last Saturday.** Amy, Alison and assistant from Middle School manned the table with examples of recycling and composting. We gave out about 100 flyers and tote bags, Wobblin Goblin parade was going on which gave us great exposure and prompted some valuable conversations.
4. **Compost survey:** Feedback/results to come next meeting.
5. **Next Zero Waste Challenge-** maybe collaborate with Middle School- wait till New Year as they are busy before then. Nadia will talk with MS faculty about the Middle School Academy project-based learning- incorporating Sustainability material into their lesson plans. Maybe plan an event for next Earth Day in April 22.
6. **Visit to JRM MRF** will be on December 1<sup>st</sup>. Let Alison know if you'd like to go.
7. **Brainstorming** re. how to increase curbside composting participation. Amy has designed an Instagram – she will post new ideas each week. Any committee member can forward ideas to her for inclusion. General theme: “Sustainable Holiday”- use recycled paper for gift wrap, less plastic, use edible or biodegradable items for gifts; shop local for gifts. Publicize at Christmas Stroll in Manchester. Use compostable paper goods for holiday parties- no plastic bottles, etc. Amy and Alison will create a Google doc for ideas for continuing education about sustainability.
8. New members needed for committee! Please let Sonja Nathan know if you know anyone interested.
9. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM. Next meeting Thursday, December 2 at 7:30 PM