

The May 10, 2017, meeting opened at 5:30.

Present were Marj Wexler (Chair), Corinna Barnard, Emily Eyre, Robin Goldberg, Juliette Haas, and Pat Konecky.

Minutes of the 4/13/17 meeting were approved.

Report on Berkshire Green Committees Network, 4/27: Representatives from the Green Committees of about seven Berkshire towns attended, including Juliette, Pat, and Marj from Egremont. Two came whose towns don't yet have Green Committees, and they'd like help establishing one. Lauren Gaherty came from BRPC, Jim Barry from DOER, and Nancy Nylen from CET. The idea is to share ideas and to network, and to learn from others' experiences. It is hoped that meetings will happen quarterly.

Egremont Recycles: Our 9th roadside trash pick-up, 4/22. All roads were covered! Sorters worked 2-hour shifts. Stats: 83 volunteers, 73 bags, 680+ lb. The prevailing opinion was that the roads had less trash than in previous years. The pizza party was held that evening in the south church, which all agreed turned out to be preferable to the firehouse. Juliette and Marj redeemed bottles and cans and collected enough for a small donation to the church.

Sustainability Coordinator: Juliette reported that the solar PV system on the Police Department roof went on line on April 28, with zero effort on our part thanks to Grenergy Solar/Torrico Electric! Weights and hauls of trash and recyclables are on a par with those of a year ago. Juliette will speak with buildings manager Tom Reynolds about replacing Town Hall bulbs with LEDs.

Wrap Recycling Action Program: Emily continues to pursue disposal options for plastic wrapping material. WRAP (www.plasticfilmrecycling.org) lists Price Chopper, which has posted a list of what they accept in their bottle-redemption room. At Big Y, the rules are less clear, so Emily is working with their manager George.

Emily is also working on a flyer focusing on plastic wrap, which might be sent out with the tax bills. She'll talk with Sue Funk about this, and with KwikPrint about creating the flyer.

Juliette will talk with Will about getting the WRAP info onto the Town website.

Noted: Price Chopper makes public-service announcements over the loudspeakers in the store about reducing trash.

Other ways to reach the public about eco-issues: A meeting with WSBS's Jesse Stewart for interviews about "green" issues has been difficult to schedule, but Emily is working on it. Robin suggested a column in The Berkshire Edge, and Corinna will talk with the editor, David Scribner. Possibly also "advice"-like columns in the Eagle or Record.

*Meeting adjourned 6:45 pm. Next meeting will be Wednesday, **June 13, 3:00 PM.***

Submitted by Marj Wexler, Sec'y