



## **Zero Waste Arlington March 20, 2025 - Minutes**

Date: March 20, 2025

Time: 7-8:30 PM

Location: 51 Grove Street Arlington MA; 2nd floor conference room

### **Attendees**

Committee Members: Jennifer Campbell, Paul Goldberg, Emily Dertz, Jim Ballin, Scott Mullen, Sarah Kmetz, Margie Bell, Priya Sankalia

Non-Members: Rachel Oliveri, Heliena Demougeot, Carol Lurie

Note taker: Sarah

### **Agenda**

1. Old Business
  - a. Review and approve February 2025 ZWA Meeting Minutes (5 minutes)
2. Ongoing Business
  - a. 2025 warrant article & Zero Waste Town Plan (20 minutes)
  - b. Town Meeting planning (15 minutes)
    - i. Warrant article presentation
    - ii. ZWA committee report
  - c. Everything is Free yard sale - May (20 minutes)
  - d. Vote on payment for water usage at Swan place water filling station (10 minutes)
  - e. Recycling Coordinator update (10 minutes)
  - f. Arlington Schools Sustainability Project Manager update (5 minutes)
  - g. Subcommittee Reports (10 minutes)
    - i. Reduce Single Use
    - ii. Zero Waste Town plan
    - iii. Legislative
    - iv. Community Engagement
    - v. Residential Food Waste Diversion
3. New Business

### **Minutes**

1. Old Business
  - a. Review and approve February 2025 ZWA Meeting Minutes (5 minutes)
    - i. approved minutes Vote: 7 Yes, 0 No, 1 abstention (Priya, wasn't here in Feb)

## 2. Ongoing Business

- a. Need committee members to sign up for taking minutes for future meetings - passed around sign up sheet
  - i. discussed should we use a virtual meeting tool where it will transcribe and create notes
  - ii. Sarah to ask Charlotte about her Town Zoom account and if this could do it
- b. 2025 warrant article & Zero Waste Town Plan
  - i. in March, members commented on article and presentation and Margie updated
  - ii. Margie still waiting on a few 2024 stats and a couple comments
  - iii. next steps: share with groups and people in town
    1. March 26 - Emily will present to Sustainable Arlington
    2. March 27 - Margie and Charlotte meeting Mike Rademacher to present
    3. April 27 - Arlington Environmental Leadership Summit at Town Hall?? TBD
    4. will share to others - Select Board and School Committee (Amy?),
    5. Margie looking in to others to reach out to - any Town Meeting Members? anyone else?
  - iv. who will present at Town Meeting? Priya could
  - v. Margie talked with town moderator
    1. as a committee, we can include this in our report saying we support it
    2. has to get reported by a Town committee
- c. Town Meeting planning
  - i. Warrant article presentation
  - ii. ZWA committee report - needs to be done by when Town Meeting starts
    1. need to vote on this beforehand - should vote at next meeting, April 17
    2. Priya to begin report and committee members to help input info
- d. Everything is Free yard sale
  - i. Jim, Emily, Larry and Sarah met to discuss what is best for ZWA. After Emily reached out to Karen and Sarah who organize the Pierce event, committee members decided it'd be best to keep it local - a neighborhood event, not Town-wide event. There are challenges with the event and having it Town-wide could create more liability, complications and effort. Decided ZWA could put together a playbook that other neighborhoods could use.
  - ii. Sarah creating playbook for people who may want to organize, then we could put on ZWA's website.
  - iii. have Pierce advertise there is a playbook for other neighborhoods in their promotion?
  - iv. Larry is reaching out ACMI to see if they could help with creating a short clip about the day.
- e. Vote on payment for water usage at Swan place water filling station (10 minutes)
  - i. Larry has talked with Greek Habits restaurant to pay for part of their water bill, as they pay for the water at the water filling station at Swan place. There is no separate meter, unfortunately.

- ii. \$250 for 2024.
- iii. Unsure about 2025.
- iv. Will wait until Larry can attend meeting to discuss and vote on this.
- v. Could we put a meter on the water filling station? Would having a small lease on the water filling station help us have justification for paying Greek Habits for the water?
- f. Arlington School Sustainability Coordinator update, Rachel Oliveri
  - i. Update on school waste diversion policy for schools - working on finalizing
  - ii. Priya asked about Project Zero and upcoming events in town
- g. Subcommittee Reports (10 minutes)
  - i. Beer Garden - reservoir. Margie gave an update:
    1. Town has put out an RFP for breweries. It requires participants to engage with ZWA. Arlington Brew Co already reached out to ZWA to talk.
    2. Proposal: brewery could buy and brand same cups we used last year (their logo, plus 'reusable, please return' wording). Customers can borrow cups from brewery for a nominal fee, to support washing and waste reduction. All participants would be encouraged to use more than once at event and return them for use at next beer garden. 9 beer gardens of season. Enables everyone to work together in an equitable way to reduce waste.
    3. How do we pay people for washing the cups? Margie & Emily will meet with Natasha to discuss.
  - ii. Legislative
    1. transparency at statehouse
      - a. public records law - MA doesn't have for state legislature, executive and judicial branches
      - b. how can we have more transparency on processes and communications around bills ZWA supports
      - c. Environmental Bond Bill - supposed to be announced in April
  - iii. Upcoming Events ZWA can participate in?
    1. none as of now
    2. last year did Community Connections Fair and Arlington Heights Spring Fling Festival but have not seen any dates/plans for these (yet).
  - iv. Bike path at Ryder St - Jim sent message to Town to suggest a water filling station