



Zero Waste Arlington June 2025 - Minutes

Date: 6/12/25

Time: 7pm

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

Attendees: Jim Ballin, Amy Speare, Emily Dertz, Scott Mullen, Priya Sankalia, Jennifer Campbell at start. Larry Slotnick and Charlotte Milan joined in person at 7:30.

Non-Members: Rachel Oliveri

Minute submitted by: Scott Mullen (Mully) with support from Jennifer Campbell

Agenda

1. Old Business
 - a. Review and approve [May 2025 Meeting Minutes](#) (5 minutes)

Call to review minutes by Jim, move for approval by Amy, second by Mully, all present members voted in favor.

2. Ongoing Business
 - a. ZWA letter to Town Manager (20 minutes)
 - b. FY25 budget review and final expenditures by 6/30 (20 minutes)
 - c. Vote on beer garden reusables expense
 - d. Vote on ZWA committee terms due for renewal (5 minutes)
 - e. Co-chair nomination process and July co-chair vote (15 minutes)
3. New Business

MINUTES

Call to review minutes by Jim, move for approval by Amy, second by Mully, all present members voted in favor.

Taking items out of order, starting with **FY25 budget review and final expenditures by 6/30, beergarden reusables:**

- **STICKERS:** Amy seeks funding for larger stickers to put on the reusable cups for the beergarden. They will include information on how to reuse and a QR code to the ZWA site. Order of 2,000 at a cost of \$289. We have ~700 old cups and 500 new ones...put new stickers on those. Jennifer noted that the green reusable cups for Town Day water truck can also be stickered, so group agreed on the larger order of 2k.
- **YARD SIGNS:** For placement around the garden to share details on the reusable program. Seeking to ensure good coverage and message distribution. Cost for double sided sign is ~\$30, looking to order four or five.
- Laminated signs for all the waste stations

- Collection bins
 - Total order for all of the above is in \$400-450 range, seeking approval for spend up to \$500
 - Amy makes a motion for the above, Emily seconded, unanimous vote from all attending members.
 - Rachel question: barrel placement is going to matter...waste bins and reuse bins, have we thought about that? Amy said Margie consulted with Recycling Works to place two stations each with trash, recycling, and waste bins. Perhaps next year add pizza box and composting?
- Town Day t-shirts?
 - Emily proposed ordering new t-shirts for volunteers in our Town Day booth and other events. Mully suggested Mirror Image which he has used in the past, he will lead outreach on that front
 - Emily made motion to approve up to \$250 to produce t-shirts for volunteers, Jennifer seconded, unanimous vote by all members in attendance
- New 10x10 tent to replace?
 - Discussion on whether it's needed...perhaps last year's issues with rain at Town Day were due to improper installation?
 - Amy moves that someone checks the status of all event equipment and reporting back by next meeting. Larry volunteered.
 - Larry suggested we get another full setup anyway and Amy & Emily agreed it would be great since we have multiple setup locations at Town Day
 - Amy proposed up to \$1200 for branded tent, seconded by Priya, unanimous approval by all members in attendance.
- Jim question: Do we need to spend the money before June 30? Charlotte - no just needs to be encumbered. Amy said she has done credit card and submit reimbursement in the past. Charlottes said June 20th is the deadline if we do it that way.

Vote on ZWA committee terms due for renewal:

Jim's and Paul's terms are expiring in 2025, motion to reappoint Jim by Amy, second by Emily, unanimous vote by all members in attendance.

Will confirm with Paul at July meeting that he wants to continue.

Co-chair nomination process and July co-chair vote:

Amy - could we consider staggering the co-chairs so there is a 'training' period for one before the other transitions out? Jennifer - it's not that complicated, she will compile a task list for future co-chairs to work by.

Call for interest from Amy, Emily, and Mully was answered with hesitation. Mully has bandwidth issues, Amy mentioned a lot of travel coming up and attendance would be difficult. She asked if we can meet virtually? Emily will step in if needed but isn't fully volunteering at this point.

Mully asked about making our meetings more open, either by meeting at Town Hall or having a virtual option? Some interest but pros and cons to each.

Larry reminded us that fully open meetings require a higher level of structure. Amy mentioned it was nice to be able to attend virtually at first, then get more involved after learning more about how the group works. Mully referenced tech considerations that inevitably arise with hybrid

meetings. Emily - what about Town Hall Annex, is that open? Charlotte said yes, open in the evenings. Amy asked about scheduling, can someone check availability? Priya will look into it.

ZWA letter to Town Manager:

The committee discussed various opinions related to communicating with the Town Manager about the new waste hauling contract. There were different opinions regarding the tone of the letter and our overall goal, ranging from expressing concerns with the process to focusing on future collaboration opportunities.

The committee decided to table the letter and to focus on a forward-looking approach with the Zero Waste master plan: we want to collaborate with the Town to find funding for the plan and develop a roadmap for the next 5 years.

Amy will reach out to the Select Board to see if we can get on their agenda and the committee will vote on the Select Board presentation in July.

Charlotte also noted that the hauling contract process in Arlington doesn't provide a way for a Town committee to weigh in and suggested forming a Commission for the Zero Waste master plan. This would be a significant undertaking and might require approval from Town Meeting. It will take 2 years to put a RFP together, so we have time to scope this.