

Green Committee
Regular Meeting
September 28, 2023
7:00 P.M.

RECEIVED
2023 SEP 26 P 3: 23
HEBRON TOWN CLERK

Video Conference Call

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81367458113?pwd=UcnWxVX8AeGoHI1nVh7Up4bpgieH9R.1>

Meeting ID: 813 6745 8113

Passcode: 331833

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Minutes:
 - a) May 25, 2023 Regular Meeting
 - b) July 27, 2023 Regular Meeting
 - c) August 24, 2023 Regular Meeting
3. Food Waste Diversion (CET)
4. ARPA Funds
5. Nickel Nip Funds
6. Swap Shack
7. Farmer's Market Summary
8. Other Business
9. Adjournment

**HEBRON GREEN COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING (VIRTUAL)
THURSDAY, MAY 25, 2023, 7:00 p.m.**

RECEIVED
2023 MAY 31 P 3: 26
EDD *ASH*
HEBRON TOWN CLERK

MINUTES

Members Present:

K. Hershey
L. Ockman
M. Harder
D. Rodosevich
B. Barlow

Members Absent:

J. Esposito
J. Matra
L. Howard

1. Call to Order - **By: K. Hershey - Time: 7:03 p.m.**
2. Approval of Minutes: a. April 27, 2023

Amendments:

1. Under section 7. Nickel Nip Funds - Change the 2nd line to: "They are receptive to working with us."
2. Under section 7. - Change the last sentence of the first paragraph to: "L. Ockman questioned if Hebron would ban nips. The consensus was no."
3. Under section 7. - Change the 4th sentence of the second paragraph to: "L. Ockman said that AHM may have ideas for a cleanup."

MOTION to APPROVE the April 27, 2023 minutes as amended.

Motion by: L. Ockman

Seconded by: M. Harder

Result: Passes (3-1-0, with D. Rodosevich voting no)

3. Shred Event Recap - Some notes had come through from J. Matra regarding the Shred Event. He had been bit by a dog. M. Harder said it was an extremely busy event from start to finish and

*Hebron Green Committee
Regular Meeting of 5/25/23
Recording Clerk - MPT
Page 1 of 4*

that, in terms of paper shredding, it was a “wild success.” He said that the location essentially didn’t work as well, as entry and exiting were more challenging and the truck itself had a difficult time getting to where it needed to be due to the cars being in the way when it showed up. He said that a thought that came up was whether or not they should maintain the “drop and go” option in the future. The shredder kept getting jammed up. A lot of food was collected.

Some issues are:

- a. Signs are dated. New signs are needed. Need the ability to adjust the date.
- b. Traffic control. Either could be done with more committee members present, or could mean police department involvement. K. Hershey said that a lot of this will be naturally resolved when they go back to the normal time of year and the normal location. M. Harder said they still need to look at the current traffic patterns.
- c. K. Hershey said they do need to make it “AHM residents only.”
- d. “No batteries” needs to be conveyed.
- e. M. Harder said they have been limiting people to 5 boxes worth of shreddable materials, and they may be able to adjust that.
- f. Committee Members probably shouldn’t be reaching towards or trying to pet dogs.
- g. Regarding idling cars - M. Harder said that if they could make things more efficient they would cut down on that.

B. Barlow joined the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

D. Rodosevich wondered if there was a way to take people by appointment only. K. Hershey said they could start it off with appointments and then open it up later.

4. DPW Letter Wrap-up - K. Hershey said that the bottom line is that the letter went out. Hoping that it will lead to a discussion with the Board of Selectmen (BoS). D. Rodosevich pointed out that there is a sentence in the letter regarding the town not being in compliance with MS4 permits, but the grammar in that sentence needs to be revised. They talked about proofing/editing the sentence. D. Rodosevich said that they thought they should make the correction and clear that up proactively. It was agreed that the change should be made. K. Hershey wondered what the best approach would be to make the edit and then get that information out. D. Rodosevich said that they should send out a note to the BoS and the Public Building Committee that says “We’d like to point out that an editing error occurred on page __, __ paragraph. We corrected it and re-attached.”

D. Rodosevich proposed a motion that an edit be made to correct an editing error in the DPW letter on page 5, in the third paragraph, under the heading “Existing Department of Public Works Facility,” to replace the phrase in the first sentence “which means” with “and that” so that the

*Hebron Green Committee
Regular Meeting of 5/25/23
Recording Clerk - MPT
Page 2 of 4*

new sentence reads “While researching alternative solutions and long term effects of salt storage including Hebron’s own facilities, we learned that the existing salt sheds have never been inspected by DEEP and that the Town is not currently in compliance with parts of the Town’s municipal separate storm water system permit (MS4 permit).” Keeping the footnotes as shown.

MOTION to REVISE the DPW letter per Denise’s spiel.

MOTION by: L. Ockman

SECONDED by: D. Rodosevich

RESULT: Passes unanimously (5-0-0)

5. Lee Sawyer Wrap-up - K. Hershey said the only thing left is to do some reporting for Recycle CT. The signs have been delivered to the Department of Public Works. Signs have been getting installed. Kevin said that the welcome sign needs a back, so the Committee will need to budget for one to be printed. Parking spaces have been painted for the Swap Shack (not technically a part of Lee Sawyer). M. Harder wondered if there should be some “no parking” signs, and K. Hershey said the funding for that would come from ARPA. K. Hershey asked if members could check in Ace Hardware to see if they have “no parking” signs.

6. Hebron Day - Taking place on June 17, 2023 from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. It is called “Hebron Day Summer Kickoff” now. L. Ockman said she may be able to attend, and same with M. Harder and D. Rodosevich. K. Hershey said she would cover and will just need to receive confirmation from the others on if they can attend and for what timeframes. K. Hershey said she would reach out to those who were not in attendance.

K. Hershey said a primary goal should be seeking a new member. B. Barlow said they should gauge interest in discounted composting supplies. K. Hershey said there will be some materials on composting available. B. Barlow suggested putting out a simple sheet that people could write their names on if they are interested in getting discounted composting supplies.

7. ARPA Funds - K. Hershey said the majority of ARPA funds have been spent on the twin bins. The next pieces are going to be the signage for the transfer station, and the bike racks. She said she wanted to start getting the money situated for the bike racks.

8. Nickel Nip Funds - L. Ockman said they had a meeting earlier in the day with a representative from AHM. She said that, as far the education component, there is someone that AHM works with that went around Hebron and cleaned up drug-and-alcohol-related stuff and put them in bins to demonstrate just how much of it was throughout town, among other things. On the action portion, the AHM rep. talked about the Juvenile Review Board that they work with, and how they might be able to coordinate with factions in town such as Parks & Recreation and Public Works to have the juveniles that need to complete community service pick up nips. M. Harder said that a group called “Hidden in Plain Sight” will be at Hebron Day, and that will have a mockup of a teenager’s bedroom with these bags/purses in them that are designed to hide drugs and alcohol.

M. Harder said he stopped at two local package stores to ask about the nips and how important they are to the business. He said that, based on the conversations he had, charging the extra nickel for the clean-up initiatives has not deterred people from purchasing the nips. He said that, in the opinion of those he spoke with, the sales of the nips is not going to be stopped or slowed much. Therefore, he suggested focusing on clean-up initiatives and perhaps improving the recycling stream so that the nip bottles can be recycled. He said he would follow up with Massachusetts municipalities that may be recycling nip bottles and find out how they are able to do so.

9. New Members - A new member is still needed. Hebron Day will be the next push for it. J. Matra was following up on the role of alternates.

10. Other Business -

L. Ockman and K. Hershey were doing the gardens for Earth Day, when the Zitkus' stopped by and expressed their concerns for asian jumping worms. Ann Zitkus shared an informative article about what to do to prevent the spread of these jumping worms. It is up on the Green Committee's website.

L. Ockman said that AHM expressed interest in the Green Committee coming to set up a booth at Maple Fest next year. She said that they want to have a recycling truck that the kids can go inside of and explore.

11. Adjournment - Next meeting: June 22, 2023

MOTION to ADJOURN the May 25, 2023 meeting at 8:39 p.m.

Motion by: M. Harder **Seconded**
by: D. Rodosevich **Result:** Passes
unanimously (5-0-0)

Respectfully submitted,
Matthew Thornberg

RECEIVED

**HEBRON GREEN COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING (VIRTUAL)
THURSDAY, JULY 27, 2023, 7:00 p.m.**

2023 AUG -4 A 8:01
EJL, Asst.
HEBRON TOWN CLERK

MINUTES

Members Present:

K. Hershey
L. Ockman
M. Harder
J. Matra

Members Absent:

J. Esposito
D. Rodosevich
B. Barlow

Guests and members of the public:

Adam Ockman

1. Call to Order - ***By: K. Hershey - Time: 7:04 p.m.***
2. Approval of Minutes: a. May 25, 2023

Tabled at the start of the meeting because they were waiting for more members to have a quorum. A quorum was obtained later in the meeting, but it was decided to wait until the next meeting to approve the May 25, 2023 meeting minutes.

3. Food Waste Diversion - M. Harder has communicated with CET (Center for EcoTechnology) and Blue Earth. Corey from CET told M. Harder that CET's involvement would only be with private generators (of food waste), as in private businesses. Their involvement could go beyond food waste and include recycling, as well. They provide their services for free. M. Harder felt they could help organize the discussion a little bit by talking about their experiences in working with other towns.

M. Harder said there are two primary categories of generators they could focus on: Private generators, and compost for individual homeowners. He said they should start by getting the

*Hebron Green Committee
Regular Meeting of 7/27/2023
Recording Clerk - MPT
Page 1 of 4*

word out. J. Matra asked if the schools are large generators. M. Harder said the schools need to be some part of the process. K. Hershey said major efforts have been put into getting composting into schools already.

There was a stoppage for about 10 minutes from roughly 7:18 p.m. to 7:28 p.m. due to internet connectivity issues.

Blue Earth did a tour of the cafeteria with the Green Committee. The general consensus is that it is best to start teaching good composting habits young and allow the kids to carry the habits forward. M. Harder said they shouldn't give up on the waste coming from the high school kitchen.

M. Harder said they should have conversations with the Board of Selectmen and Andy Tierney to give a general overview of what they have in mind before moving forward with any plans.

K. Hershey said they need to meet Paul Forest, the new DPW director. More conversations will happen with Corey of CET before the September meeting. A list of places in town that are major generators will be put together. They thought the EDC might be able to help them put together that list, and K. Hershey wondered if they should go to one of their meetings as a guest.

K. Hershey suggested making some low cost or free composting buckets or bins available.

K. Hershey said she follows "Reduce the Trash" on Instagram. They do waste audits for towns. She said they demonstrate how much food waste is in trash by opening trash bags and separate the food waste from the other waste. reducethetrashct.com. It is a part of CT DEEP.

L. Ockman joined via Adam Ockman's audio at approximately 7:55 p.m.

4. ARPA Funds - Twin bins, signs for the transfer station, and bike racks. K. Hershey said Parks & Recreation wants a bike rack at Greyville Falls. The transfer station needs a back to the welcome sign. M. Harder wondered if there would be any funds left over for paper shred signs. K. Hershey said it is possible but they need to take care of the items they were granted the funds for first.

L. Ockman officially joined at around 8:00pm and allowed for there to be a quorum.

It was agreed that discussions with Andy Tierney and the Board of Selectmen would be set up.

5. Nickel Nip Funds - L. Ockman said that, in her conversations with AHM, they explained the programs they have that they could potentially put the funding towards. She talked about juveniles doing roadside cleanup. She wondered what percentage of the funding they should give to AHM, if that was the direction they went it. M. Harder said they should check to make sure they have the authority to give the funds to other entities. K. Hershey said they have the authority, but they need to propose what they want to do with the funding and it needs to be

approved. M. Harder said he felt the funding should be divvied up. Cleanup, AHM, and food waste diversion were the ideas that have been prevailing so far.

M. Harder wondered in another wave of funding would be coming. K. Hershey asked M. Harder to ask Andy if the money coming in would be continuous.

MOTION to DIVIDE, give or take, the \$13,000 into three, with 1/3 going to food waste diversion, 1/3 going to roadside cleanup, and 1/3 going to some sort of partnership with AHM.

Motion by: M. Harder

Seconded by: L. Ockman

Result: Passes (4-0-0)

*Caveat that this plan is preliminary.

6. Swap Shack Rules and Management - K. Hershey said that the idea of it years ago was for the Shack to become self-sustaining. Adam Ockman said if they could get some volunteers involved it could help lessen the burden. Volunteers would need to sign a waiver. Large items cannot be taken in. M. Harder said he thinks there needs to be a presence while the Shack is open. J. Matra wondered if they could pay someone a stipend.

It was agreed that going forward the rules to swappable items would be amended to exclude strollers, car seats, stuffed animals (and other soft goods), bikes, Xmas trees, and frames. K. Hershey wanted to start conditioning people towards the new standards.

7. New Members - There are empty seats. A Facebook post was made to try and recruit new members. A post could be made in the River East. They brainstormed on where they could get new members. L. Ockman said she would reach out to a couple of friends. Flyers will be made for the next paper shred event. They considered getting a pop-up a tent at a future farmer's market. K. Hershey will email Rich Marzi and see if she can get a spot.

MOTION to SPEND up to \$75 for a tent at the farmer's market.

Motion by: J. Matra

Seconded by: M. Harder

Result: Passed (4-0-0)

M. Harder said he would ask J. Esposito to spread the word to his friends.

8. Other Business - alt energy

Adam Ockman said that people can get a tax credit for investing in certain things like solar.

Adam Ockman got a solar panel from the Swap Shack and the idea of donating it to the school for conducting science experiments was brought up.

9. Adjournment -

MOTION to **ADJOURN** the July 27, 2023 meeting at 9:20 p.m.

Motion by: M. Harder

Seconded by: J. Matra

Result: Passes (4-0-0)

Respectfully submitted,
Matthew Thornberg