

Minutes of the February Meeting 02.07.24
Environmental Committee
Town of Walden

Catherine Colby called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Attendees: Tony Wheeler, Betty Workinger, Diane Ryder, Mary Aho, Linda Collins, Sandy Koss, Barbara Womack, Hannah Lynch, Dan Reynolds, Sarah Beddoe

The minutes from the December EC meeting were unanimously approved. Motion by Diane, seconded by Linda.

Hannah discussed continuation of salt contamination testing at the Bachman Community Center salt shed. Hamilton County will be removing the salt from the site once the cold season is over. Hannah will continue to test the topsoil and surrounding areas when the salt is removed. The committee will continue discussions and suggestions for salt tolerant plants for this area.

The final Tree Ordinance will be with the WPC by our next committee meeting. We will continue discussions about creating a Tree Board and a heritage tree list with the Town of Walden.

Dan and Mary spoke about the next steps for Dark Skies- they are in conversation with the key account representative for the Walden Electric Power Board to get an inventory of the town's street light specifications. Mary plans to attend Walden's upcoming town meeting to present a proposal to the board for permission to view the street light specifications and give recommendations for Dark Skies compliancy.

Diane discussed the distribution of "No Mow Month" signs to help safeguard ephemeral blooms from mowing during the spring months. She also discussed Walden citizens' ability to apply their yards for the National Garden Club's Pollinator Garden Certification.

Sarah and Catherine discussed the Spring Rain Barrel program specifications- the sales close on April 21st, distribution of the barrels will be the morning of May 4th. We will continue discussions around volunteers needed for the distribution event and a distribution site (possibly Bachman Community Center or the Walden Civics League).

Tony spoke about increasing waste and recycling education for the Town of Walden. He is looking into the efforts of Amy Katcher with the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation to inspire education within our town.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,