

**CONSERVATION AND ENVIRONMENT COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, JANUARY 31, 2022
VIRTUAL MEETING**

Recording available at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kOMHq62nUDI>

1. Call to Order and Attendance – 7:03 P.M.
 - a. Matt Macunas, Rick Bush, Roni Rodman, Jessica Shaefer-Helmecki-Tellerico, Emilee Scott, Kim Hughes, Emily Graner-Sexton, Ted Newton, Shawn Daly

2. Old Business

- Minutes approved from November 29, 2021 meeting

3. Public Comment Opportunity

Andrew Davidson, resident

- Per Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change report, there's been decarbonization activity in energy and transportation sectors, but not landscaping industry. Cited climate rationales, and other places taking action including California; Chevy Chase, MD; Larchmont, NY; and Burlington, VT.

Stephen Sack, resident

- An equipment use ban is infeasible, but supports an education outreach campaign to promote consumer choice of alternative fuels
- Encouraged EnergizeCT Home Energy Solutions audits to insulate homes from not just heat loss but against noise

Christine Feeley, resident

- West Hartford adopted an updated Comprehensive Energy Plan in June, containing a transition to clean energy equipment; action on landscape equipment is in service of that policy. Efforts to move to electric power are consistent with that plan. Supports an education campaign.

Elizabeth Davidson, resident (written)

- Continue considering environmental damage of gas-powered landscape equipment, and the possibility of a ban. Financial incentives paired with phase-outs would be most effective.

4. New Business

- Town request for formal input on landscaping equipment – educational campaigns and incentives. Open discussion with group and guests.
 - An ad hoc group with Ted, Kim and Matt will draft a proposal for the full CEC to consider at its next meeting.

5. Adjournment 8:34 P.M.