



SUSTAINABLE WEST HARTFORD COMMISSION

November 25, 2024
7:00 PM, Room 407, Town Hall

MEETING AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes
3. Approval of 2025 meeting dates – move Dec 30 meeting to Dec 16?
4. Communications & Community Comment (max 3 min each)
5. Ongoing Business
 - Sustainable CT Awards / Plaques
 - Student Rep Reports
 - KO/Dan Gleason Climate Action Survey
 - Working Group Reports
 - Waste - no meeting
 - Nature-Based Solutions - attached
 - Energy / Buildings - attached
 - Report to Town Council
 - Revisions to 2024 & 2025 slides
 - Schedule drafting session
 - Commission Goals
 - Public
 - “Blank Slate” Sustainability Sessions in 2025 – WHPL, WHCI
 - Cool West Hartford
 - Town of West Hartford
 - Dave (Chair) to meet with Town Manager
 - Long-Term Planning
6. New Business
7. Staff Report
8. Calendar Updates – Public Works, Facilities & Sustainability Standing Committee – 12/5, 1/9/25
9. Next Steps & Agenda for Next Meeting
10. Adjournment

Anyone requiring auxiliary aid or service for effective communication or modification of policies or procedures to participate in a meeting, service, program or activity of the Town of West Hartford, should contact Suzanne Oslander, ADA Coordinator, at suzanneo@westhartfordct.gov or (860) 561-7580, as soon as possible, preferably seven days beforehand.

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

2025

NAME OF PUBLIC AGENCY:	Sustainable WH Commission	
Meetings to be held:	Rm 407 Town Hall	(Place)
Meetings begin at:	7-9 PM	(Time)
Meetings are held on	last Monday of month	(Day)
JANUARY	27	
FEBRUARY	24	
MARCH	31	
APRIL	28	
MAY	JUNE 2 (note: MAY 26 is memorial day)	
JUNE	30	
JULY	28	
AUGUST	25	
SEPTEMBER	29	
OCTOBER	27	
NOVEMBER	24	
DECEMBER	29	
JANUARY, 2026	26	

Please return the above schedule to the Town Clerk, 50 South Main Street, West
Hartford, 06107.

Nature-based Solutions Working Group Sustainable WH Commission Report

Meeting date: Monday, November 25, 2024

1. Project updates
 - a. Contract with Mike Nadeau, meadow expert, is in process, led by Leisure Services. Larger than originally intended and includes follow-up care and maintenance.
 - b. Planting Policy - following the lead of other towns we are proposing a planting policy that will hopefully offer guidance across town departments responsible for land care.
 - c. Signage - project to connect key stakeholders and devise a common template for pollinator gardens on municipal land spaces.
2. Cool West Hartford
 - a. Components of Cool Boulder that we would like to see in our Cool West Hartford launch
 - i. Vision, define action areas that encompass the efforts of our entire commission - pollinator pathways, connect canopies, absorbent landscapes, trash and clean energy
 - ii. Partners - start building relationships with nonprofits, schools, religious institutions, more.
 - iii. Website page design with some autonomy
 - iv. Database, collect info for tracking/connecting
 - v. Newsletter
 - vi. Calendar
 - b. Researching other towns efforts
3. New suggestions - can we pursue restrictions around gas-powered lawn care?

November 12 2024
Zoom Meeting
Jim Fishman
Stephen Sack
Bernard Pelletier
Christine Feely
Catherine Diviney

Project	Date	EWG participants	Project Description
HES / HES IE campaign	February	Bernie	Organize one outreach "blast" - to increase HES and HES IE adoption. May include WHCi session, Town email blast, Facebook boost, Social Services insert
Multifamily Solar	December	Bernie / Jim Catherine	Follow up on non town properties - with Katie Shelton from Green Bank Solar for all - is GB the only path way - Catherine to call Kyle Schiel from CROG
Business Campaign	Q1 2025	Stephen Sack	Have Jack Cunningham from ESC talk to Elmwood business group
EV Showcase	October	Samantha Dynowski- KO	EV Event with Farmer's market
Lawn Equipment	Move to NBS	Christine Feely	Education Options Economics Ways to make status quo better
DRAC Engagement	All Year	Jim	Attend meetings/ dialogue - goal to imbue DRAC mission with Sustainability focus
SPECIFIC PROJECTS	All Year	Jim Jim Jim	Keep tabs on Vessel project Keep tabs on Elmwood Community Center Keep tabs on Asylum. Project
Check list for Town Planner	December	Catherine	Check on status of town planning adoption of check list - learn more about what Stamford has done
West Hartford Public Schools	All Year	Catherine / BAP Catherine / BAP	DOE School Energy class - Curriculum
Energy Plan	TBD		Wait for Commission to determine if Cool Boulder is going to incorporate energy
Solsmart	TBD	Town / Bldg Dept	Catherine to talk to Tim Mikloiche (Bldg Dept) about adopting Solsmart
Dark Night Skies	TBD	Town / P&Z	Catherine to talk to Todd Dumais (Planner)
EV Charging	TBD	Public Works	Catherine working with DPW/Parking
Cool West Hartford - Energy	All year	EWG/ SWHC	Can we fit energy plan into framework of Cool West Hartford?
Monthly outreach	January	EWG	Propose years programing for energy related outreach
Policy Working Group			
Solar canopy pro forma WH Schools	TBD	Town / Plant & Facilities	Catherine to talk to Verogy and others