



SUSTAINABLE WEST HARTFORD COMMISSION

January 27, 2025

7:00 PM, Room 407, Town Hall

MEETING MINUTES

1. Call to Order **7:04 PM**

- **Pat Wilson Y**
- **Jim Fishman N**
- **Bernie Pelletier Y**
- **Dave Sagers Y**
- **Ted Newton Y**
- **Steve Sack Y**
- **Christy Matthews N**
- **Kim Hughes Y**
- **Vacant**
- **Vacant**
- **Vacant**
- **Student Reps – Erica Kahn N, Nathaniel Goldschmidt N**
- **Staff: Katherine Bruns (Recycling Coordinator), Catherine Diviney (Energy Specialist)**
- **6 members of the public: Jonathan Ferrigno, Kelly Kennedy, Christine Feely, Madeline Hexter, Dan Gleason, ?**

2. Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes - **Approved without changed, 6-0**

3. Administrative – attendance, vacancies, etc.

- **Two new commissioners are expected to be appointed at the next Town Council meeting, Jan 28: Jonathan Ferrigno and Kelly Kennedy**
- **Commission reviewed attendance from 2024 and emphasized the importance of being present. Reviewed the “Welcome to public service” for new members, the annual FOIA training, and swearing in process once new commissioners are appointed**

4. Communications & Community Comment (max 3 min each)

- **USJ Wellness Fair – Feb 5 – Commission was invited but because of late notice elected not to participate.**
- **Knit by JC – wanted to know if we are doing an earth day event similar to last years. The commission declined to lead the event but would join/ support if someone else takes the lead:**
 - **Catherine is going to check with Blue Back Square to see if they would be a focal point**
 - **Catherine / Dave will ask Mayor Cantor if the town is doing an event**
 - **Bernie to check with other groups (Sierra e.g.) and check with Hartford**
 - **Issues: lack of organizers - insurance - having a non-profit to receive cash**
- **Madeline Hexter – indicated she sent comments on the town’s planting policy to Helen Rubino-Turco, Director Leisure Services. The Commission is working on draft planting policy to send back to Helen also. Will be later on agenda.**
- **Dan Gleason interested in joining a working group.**

5. Ongoing Business

- Town Engagement
 - 12/18 Meeting w/ Mayor and Town Manager - **David Sagers talked about the ongoing desire to strengthen ties with the Town. The Commission would like to formalize ties with the Town. Dave reviewed the asks for of the Town Council to be appoint a liaison - believe the Mayor will be our liaison and attend next meeting.**
 - **Town Council priorities**
 - **Waste Management – drop-off locations to be opened in spring - measuring progress – Public Works will track drop-off tonnage**
 - **Tree Canopy – “Tree Action Group” – Dave to reach out to Mayor Cantor about the tree canopy study/project.**
 - **Storm water management - Invitation of Bristol to Town and Commission to see their water management progress**
 - **Transportation**
 - **Affordable housing**
 - **The Town would like the Commission to expand its voice and help communicate Town success stories (e.g., Trout Brook Trail) more broadly**
 - 01/09 presentation to PWF&S Committee – [2024 Report](#) and next steps
- Resident Engagement
 - Celebrate! West Hartford 2025 booth – **booth secured**
 - WHCi - **Commissioners to add suggestions to Excel sheet prepared by Bernie (attached)**
 - Workshop series (like last year’s “Your Home is a Habitat”) - **goal to have 4 events in person**
 - Cool West Hartford - **recommend a working group to focus on this – goal to unveil this at the time of Celebrate West Hartford (June 7 - 8). Working Group volunteers:**
 - **Pat Wilson**
 - **Jonathan Ferrigno**
 - **David Sagers**
 - **Katherine Bruns/Catherine Diviney**
- Student Rep Reports - None
- Working Group Reports
 - Waste
 - **Get compost and rain barrel program started**
 - **Engage schools**
 - **Monitor drop off program – 4 locations - Town Hall – Norfeldt Field – Eisenhower Park – DPW/Brixton Road (hopefully outside fence for evening and weekend access)**
 - **Recognition that the town needs to make recycling more convenient**
 - Nature-Based Solutions – **report attached**
 - **Completed draft Wolcott Park signage and draft planting policy – thanks to working group members for their research and efforts.**
 - **Commission discussed next steps and asked staff liaison to pass drafts along to Director of Leisure Services and Director of Public Works.**
 - Energy / Buildings – **report attached**

6. New Business

- Earth Day 2025 theme: [Our Power, Our Planet](#) - [Earth Action Day](#), email from the Mayor – ***to be discussed at Feb meeting, hopefully with Mayor in attendance. Commission supportive of a public “town hall” discussion with leadership.***
- 2025 Working Groups

7. Staff Report - none

8. Calendar Updates – 2/7/25 Th - SBEA presentation to Elmwood Biz Association; 4/22/25 Tu Earth Day; 6/7 & 6/8/25 Sa & Su - Celebrate! West Hartford

9. Agenda for Next Meeting – 2/24/25:

- ***Working on getting a school liaison***
- ***Engaging with the Mayor***
- ***Two new commissioners***

10. Adjournment **9:05 PM**

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.

12 slots for the Sustainable West Hartford Commission
Each slot is 30 minutes

Month	Focus	Topic	Point Person	Description
Februrary	Energy	Christina D'Amato interview	Steve/ Bernie	Elmwood Business Association
February	Energy	Christina D'Amato interview	Bernie	Discussion of Business Efficiency Programs
March	Waste	Blue Earth Compost	Ted	Interview Sam King
April	Natural Solutions	Getting ready for Spring	Kim	Natural solutions for lawn and garden
May	Waste	Tour of Brixton Road	Ted	Our town capabilities
June	SWHC	Celebrate West Hartford	Jenn Evans	Roving reported film booth
July	Natural Solutions	Dealing with invasives	Kim	Identifying and managing invasive species
August	SWHC	West Hartford's municipal operatio	Catherine	What is our town doing
September	Energy	National Drive Electric Week	Jenn Evans	Roving reporter films event
October	SWHC	Hall - Conard Environmental	Catherine	Interview with the two clubs
November	Energy	Insulation for your home	Bernie	Do's and Don't's of insulation
December	Energy	Heat pumps for heating	Bernie	Heat pump introduction

Nature-based Solutions Working Group

Monthly report

Commission Meeting Date: Jan 27, 2025

1. **Signage for Wolcott Projects:** An opportunity to work with Leisure Services to create educational material around pollinators and native plants. We have developed draft content for signage at two garden projects – Wolcott Children’s Forest Entrance and Wolcott Meadow -- and are ready to submit these drafts to Leisure Services to finalize with their hired sign professional in the Town format with photos.

We are also suggesting ways to offer more resources (for example: plant tags, QR codes, logos, etc.) to connect passersby with more information, tools, Cool West Hartford, etc., that will help them take action.

Draft Garden Signage content attached.

2. **Planting Policy:** An opportunity to work with Leisure Services to review and strengthen the Town’s planting policy. The Town has written a planting policy, but is willing to consider additional comments and input. We have developed draft language for a more robust planting policy, and are ready to submit to Leisure Services. Policy language was borrowed heavily from other CT Towns’ policies and Sustainable CT, just like Pollinator-Friendly Resolution process.

The objective of the Planting Policy is to establish our Town’s recognition of the necessity to maximize the use of native vegetation and minimize the use of pesticides, insecticides, and neonicotinoids on municipal properties in the Town of West Hartford to protect biodiversity and restore natural habitats which support environmental sustainability, healthy ecosystems, and climate resilience.

The Planting Policy also provides guidance around plant selection and a description of various habitats. Importantly, a Planting Policy could proactively eliminate misunderstandings that have occurred in the past (for example, the planting of invasive plants like Bradford Pear trees, Norway maples, etc.)

Draft Planting Policies attached.

3. **Seasonal Workshops:** The NbS team is also starting to plan and organize a series of seasonal workshops (like last year’s “Your Home is a Habitat”) that target residents by offering them practical, simple tips for making changes in their spaces or in our town that support our goals around biodiversity and resilience.

So far, topics include:

- a. Pesticide/chemical free lawns
- b. River friendly landscaping
- c. Leave the leaves, save the stems, fall ‘clean-up’ that supports all life
- d. Winter native seed sowing

DRAFT GARDEN SIGNAGE

Here is a model/template of Town signage from Spicebush Swamp Park:



Wolcott Children's Forest Entrance Signage

This pollinator garden showcases a variety of plants that once grew abundantly throughout North America. They were part of a vast community of living and nonliving things that worked together in reciprocity.

Because these plants developed and changed along with other living things and the land for thousands of years, they are suited to the climate of New England, the soil, and each other. They can survive rugged conditions with less water and care than needed by turf grasses and non-native plants that developed in other parts of the world.

They also produce food for native insects and wildlife, especially the plants we call Keystone Plants. Keystone Plants play outsize roles in providing food and shelter for insects and other species. Just one of these important plants can help native foodwebs and restore biodiversity. Essentially, they are the most productive plants that support the most species in their region. Some of the Keystone Plants you will find in this garden are:

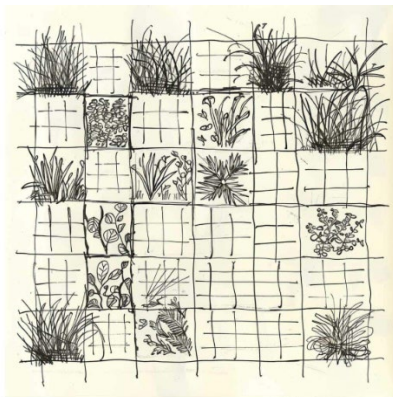
(Add brief description of listed keystone plants; photos with keystone plants hosting pollinators would work well here)

- Coreopsis (Lanceleaf tickseed)
- Rudbeckia (Black-eyed Susan)

- Symphyatrichum (Wood aster)
- Solidago (Goldenrod)
- Helianthus (Woodland sunflower)

A unique feature of this garden is the Matrix Design used to place plants in patterns that mimic nature. This method of closely grouping suitable plants together helps prevent weed growth while minimizing watering and garden maintenance.

Photo examples



Temporary Signage for Wolcott Meadow (while under construction)

What's happening here?

We're making a meadow! West Hartford Public Works removed all the grass and weeds from this area and delivered piles of wood chips to spread over the soil. This thick layer of mulch will be left until Spring to keep the grass and weeds from growing back.

Underneath the ground, worms, insects and small organisms called microbes are busy turning decaying plant matter into rich soil. When the meadow is ready, it will be planted with grasses, flowers, bushes and trees that are native to this area of North America. These plants will feed and shelter pollinators like butterflies, moths, bees, birds, bats and small mammals.

In return, these pollinators will do the important job of spreading pollen, which allows plants to develop seeds and fruit and to reproduce. The plants and pollinators help each other grow, build soil, supply food to other plants and animals, and make the earth healthier.

Would you like to do this at home? You can support pollinators and bring nature to your doorstep by planting natives in your garden. (Possible scan code or link to West Hartford Web Page??) (Scan code for the Xerces Society?)

A project of the West Hartford Department of Leisure Services, the Sustainable West Hartford Commission, the West Hartford Garden Club and the UCONN Master Gardener Program

TOWN OF WEST HARTFORD PLANTING POLICIES

To support environmental sustainability and climate resilience best practices, the Leisure Services Department follows basic principles of well-stewarded land and natural resource management, including the following:

1. Plant native species wherever practically possible.
2. Prioritize planting of native pollinator plants wherever practically possible.
3. Identify and remove invasive plant species in parks wherever practically possible and replace with biodiverse, climate-adaptable native plant species.
4. Plant trees, following Right Tree, Right Place policy.
 - **Height.** Will the tree bump into anything when it is fully grown?
 - **Canopy spread.** How wide will the tree grow?
 - **Is the tree deciduous or evergreen?** (Will it lose its leaves in the winter?)
 - **Form or shape.** A columnar tree will grow in less space. Round and V-Shaped species provide the most shade.
 - **Growth rate.** How long will it take for your tree to reach its full height? Slow growing species typically live longer than fast growing species.
 - **Soil, sun, and moisture** requirements.
 - **Fruit.** No one wants messy droppings on busy sidewalks, parking lots and storm water systems.
 - **Utilities.** Are there overhead utilities? – consider height #1 and canopy spread
#2. Underground utilities? - do not plant over underground utility zones/pathways.
5. For every tree removed, plant two trees, adhering to the Right Tree, Right Place philosophy. Tree replacement planting may be nearby location of removed tree.
6. Contribute to park infrastructure for storm water management by planting appropriate vegetation.

These planting policies are supported by the Department of Leisure Services and the Department of Public Works.

November 2023

ALTERNATE DRAFT
TOWN OF WEST HARTFORD
Planting Policy for Municipal Landscapes

PURPOSE: This policy aims to establish minimum standards that support biodiversity and contribute to a sustainable future. The Town of West Hartford, Leisure Services and Public Works Departments recognize the necessity to maximize the use of native vegetation and minimize the use of pesticides, insecticides, and neonicotinoids on municipal properties in the Town of West Hartford to protect biodiversity and restore natural habitats which support environmental sustainability, healthy ecosystems, and climate resilience. Choosing plants and seeds that have not been treated with pesticides, insecticides, or neonicotinoids is essential to support pollinators.¹ A **native plant** is defined for this policy as one that is indigenous to the *Eastern Temperate Forest of North America* ecoregion.²

INTENT: This policy intends to maximize the use of appropriate native plants on municipal properties to help mitigate the effects of habitat loss and fragmentation from development and the proliferation of non-native/exotic plantings in our town landscapes. Native plants are essential for maintaining healthy ecosystems.

In observing this policy, we acknowledge that we are responsible for supporting, maintaining, and improving our natural environment for future generations. We must educate residents on the importance of incorporating native plants and the minimal use of insecticides and pesticides by setting examples on municipal properties and with informative signs in public spaces and links to information on the town's website. Further, this Planting policy is consistent with the following:

- a. The 2020-2030 West Hartford Plan of Conservation and Development.
- b. The 2022 Town of West Hartford Resolution Declaring a Climate Crisis.
- c. The 2024 Pollinator-Friendly Community Resolution.
- d. Connecticut Invasive Plant Working Group (CIPWIG.UCONN.edu). Which is an authority on invasive plants in Connecticut and the Town of West Hartford. It is, therefore, a reference and resource for the Town of West Hartford's Leisure Services, Public Works, and Engineering Departments.

¹ U.S. Forest Service

² epa.gov/eco-research; EPA, North America Level I shows West Hartford to be in the large *Eastern Temperate Forest* region; more specifically EPA Level IV Ecoregions of the New England poster shows that Connecticut is in Ecoregion 59, and West Hartford is within Ecoregion *Connecticut Valley* 59a.

- e. State of Connecticut General Assembly Bill #190 introduced by the Committee on ENVIRONMENT.³

POLICY REQUIREMENTS:

Include Best Practices, Other Considerations, and the Percentage of New Natives for each plant type.

Best Practices

In general, plantings should be considered plant communities with native plants that bloom from early spring to late fall, including tall trees, understory trees and shrubs, herbaceous plants, and ground covers.

Native plants:

- Every effort should be made to select and plant straight species of native plants that are local ecotypes, Ecoregion 59, or at least native to the Eastern Temperate Forest. Plant cultivars developed for specific functions, such as disease resistance and drought tolerance, may be used case-by-case. However, hybrids developed for “doubled flowers” and color changes should be avoided because they often do not provide sufficient nutrition for pollinators and other wildlife.
- Leisure Services and Public Works will develop and maintain a list of native plants, which will be reviewed and updated annually.
- Identify insect and pollinator species that will benefit from selected native plants.
- Identify and remove invasive plant species in parks and replace them with native plants appropriate for that specific environment.
- Provide written rationale if/when the thresholds for native plantings are unmet [as defined at the end of the document].
- Follow a maintenance schedule for meadows that limits or delays mowing to the winter and early spring.

Insecticides & herbicides

- Eliminate the use of pesticides, particularly neonicotinoids, when possible. These are deadly to pollinators and other wildlife in the food web and ultimately

³ Bill #190 was raised in the February Session, 2024. It didn't pass then, however, it is expected to be reintroduced in 2025. It would restrict the use of neonicotinoids for non-agricultural use. A copy of this bill is at the end of this Planting Policy document.

negatively impact human health. (a bill is being introduced in the CT state assembly; more details from Chris Feely)

- Care should be taken to source plants and seeds that are not treated with neonicotinoids.
- Eliminate using all pesticides, herbicides, and synthetic fertilizers on school grounds.
- Eliminate all pesticides, herbicides, and synthetic fertilizers within 100 ft. of native plant sites.

Other considerations

- **Height.** Will the plant bump into anything when it is fully grown? Example: Plant a smaller tree or move it farther from a building, utility pole, or other tree.
- **Canopy spread (trees).** How wide will the tree grow? Avoid tangling with power lines and cable lines. Avoid shading desirable trees or shrubs nearby that need sun, etc.
- **Utilities.** Are there overhead utilities? – consider height #1 and canopy spread #2. Underground utilities? - do not plant over underground utility zones/pathways.
- **Is the tree deciduous or evergreen?** (Will it lose its leaves in the winter?)
- **Form or shape.** A columnar tree will grow in less space. Round and V-shaped species provide the most shade.
- **Growth rate.** How long will the tree/shrub take to reach its full height? Slow-growing species typically live longer than fast-growing species; however, fast-growing trees can be helpful in specific locations.
- **Match the plants' soil, sun, and moisture requirements to the location.** Make the best match possible so the tree will thrive (not just survive) - Right Plant Right Place philosophy.
- **Fruits and berries** provide food for birds and other wildlife, so plant female trees and shrubs where possible. In other words, female trees and shrubs should be planted with green mulch and soft landing below, and female trees and shrubs should be planted away from busy sidewalks, parking lots, and stormwater systems. **Plant male trees and shrubs of the same species to provide for pollination.**
- **Replacement:** For every tree removed, plant two trees, adhering to the Right Tree, Right Place philosophy. Tree replacement planting may be near the location of the removed tree.
- Implement **wood chips and town compost** in place of imported bark mulch.
- Explore using **compost and leaf mold** instead of traditional, synthetic fertilizers.

- Explore creating ‘**soft landings**’ with various native ground cover (or perennials, shrubs) underneath a tree's canopy to support insect/pollinator habitat.
- Limit leaf collection where possible to provide habitat for overwintering insects. Ideal places for ‘**leaving the leaves**’ might be existing garden beds or “soft landings” (as mentioned above).

Percentage of new native plantings and other bio-diverse considerations

Trees

Due to the high wildlife value of native trees, 100% of new and replacement tree plantings on municipal properties will be native to the Northeast. Many trees, when not harmed by storms, disease, injuries from equipment, etc., can live for hundreds of years. They should be considered permanent parts of a landscape. When possible, plant trees with tap roots intact. This will provide longer-living, more resilient trees. Many native trees support hundreds of insects, and the birds and wildlife species consume those insects. Non-native trees do not support this diversity.

Shrubs

New and replacement shrubs for municipal properties will be at least 85% native. There is a great variety of native shrubs to fit all growing conditions and aesthetic desires. Every effort should be made to select native shrubs. Native shrubs also support insects; many produce berries or fruit, essential fall and winter bird food.

Herbaceous Perennials

New and replacement herbaceous perennials for municipal properties will be at least 75% native. A great variety of native perennials is available to fit all growing conditions and aesthetic desires. Every effort should be made to select native perennials.

Ornamental Grasses

On municipal properties, new and replacement ornamental grass plantings will be 100% native. Only native grasses may be planted due to the many seeds grasses produce and the potential to spread by wind. Some ornamental non-native grasses commonly planted are believed to be detrimental to our ecosystems. Fountain Grass (*Pennisetum alopecuroides*), for example, is an emerging invasive threat in some areas.

Groundcovers

New and replacement plants intended as groundcovers will be 100% native. These low-growing plants spread quickly and form a dense cover. Consider replacing non-native grasses by seeding those areas that don't need to be mowed for playing fields and walkways with native sedges and grasses. These native ground covers can be mowed less frequently, sometimes only once/year. Use groundcovers under trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants to form a "green mulch" and "soft landings" that provide habitats for pollinators and other insects that support the food chain and biodiversity.

Riparian Zones/Wetlands

Wetlands and watercourses should be maintained to allow for native vegetation to flourish. Restoration of these communities is essential for filtering water and preventing erosion and flooding, so native grasses, perennials, and shrubs should be added to these zones. An annual mowing should suffice. Allowing vegetation to grow not only filters water and prevents flooding and erosion but also deters waterfowl (primarily non-native geese).

Turf grass

The exception to native plantings is turf grass for playing fields and walking areas that need to be mowed. Only non-GMO seeds not treated with neonicotinoids should be used.

This policy applies to

1. All new plantings of trees, shrubs, and other plants on municipal properties.
2. All seeds used in place of plants.
3. Any replacement plantings, including but not limited to trees, shrubs, and perennials, felled by storms, disease, redevelopment/expansion, or other reasons.

EXCEPTIONS

1. This policy does not apply to plants grown for food, green roofs, or other applications that clearly require the use of non-native plants.
2. Annual plantings need not be native since they complete their life cycle within one growing season; however, they still should not have been treated with insecticides.
3. This policy will not affect existing trees and other plants. However, for any trees or plants replaced due to damage or any other reason, replacements must be native species as specified in policy requirements.

ENFORCEMENT

The mayor, town council, town manager, and tree warden shall implement and administer this policy, and Town departments will be held in compliance with it.

DEFINITIONS:

*A **Native Plant** lives or grows naturally in a particular region without direct or indirect human intervention. These plants and animals have co-evolved over hundreds of thousands of years and form the balance of nature in which humans live, work, and play.*

*A **straight species or wild-type native plant** occurs naturally in a particular region and has not been cultivated by human intervention. These plants have co-evolved to develop complex and essential relationships with pollinators, birds, and other wildlife species in a given ecological community. Every effort should be made to use straight species of native plants that are local ecotypes.*

***Non-native plants**, also called exotic or alien plants, are not naturally found in our local area. Many are imported from Europe and Asia. They have been introduced by human intervention (intentionally or accidentally) and include crops, ornamental plants, and naturalized plants (including invasive species). A naturalized plant thrives without human intervention but can never be considered “native” since it has not evolved to provide the same benefit here as it would in its own country of origin.*

While many non-native plants are benign for aggressive spread, they dominate our landscapes. As development increasingly encroaches on our wild places, our native flora is being replaced by exotic plants and lawns. The loss of native flora threatens healthy ecosystems, a balance essential for all life, including our own.

***Invasive plants** are non-native plants recorded on the CT Invasive Plant List. The list includes plants prohibited by state statute, plants having the potential for invasive spread, and invasive species with cultivars yet to be evaluated for invasive characteristics. Invasive plants can establish on many sites, proliferate, and spread to the point of disrupting plant communities or ecosystems.*

<https://cipwg.uconn.edu/ct-state-invasive-plant-laws/>

***Native cultivars or nativars** can be hybrids (products of two or more plants intentionally selected by breeders and crossed to create certain traits) or clonally produced copies of one particular wild-type plant. While these are technically the same species as wild-types, they may represent only a fraction of the species' natural diversity.*

When plants are selectively bred for a particular trait(s) (changing flower or foliage color, weeping form, or creating double flowers), the result is often cultivars that have lost what made them attractive to essential pollinators and beneficial insects and may even lack the nutrition needed to sustain them. [Include list of reliable plant sources at the end? Which ones]

RESOURCES

[CT Native Tree and Shrub Availability List](#) [\[add perennials link\]](#)

Connecticut Invasive Plant Working Group website (cipwg.uconn.edu)

A Copy of Bill #190

General Assembly Raised Bill No. 190 February Session, 2024 LCO No. 1656 Referred to Committee on ENVIRONMENT Introduced by: (ENV) AN ACT CONCERNING THE USE OF NEONICOTINOIDS. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (l) of section 22a-50 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective October
3 1, 2024):

4 (l) (1) Not later than January 1, 2018, the commissioner shall classify
5 all neonicotinoids, as defined in section 22-61k, that are labeled for
6 treating plants, as restricted use pursuant to subdivision (2) of
7 subsection (c) of this section.

8 (2) On and after December 31, 2027, no person shall use any pesticide
9 that contains any neonicotinoid, as defined in section 22-61k, except that
10 such pesticide may be used: (1) By a licensed arborist or a licensed
11 ornamental plant applicator for the purpose of tree or ornamental plant
12 applications, (2) for indoor and structural applications by a licensed
13 pesticide applicator if such pesticide is labeled for interior use or such
14 application is made within five feet of a building foundation perimeter
15 for the purpose of managing structural pests, (3) by a licensed applicator Raised Bill
No. 190 LCO No. 1656 2 of 2

16 for protection against ticks and mosquitos, (4) by a nursery, or (5) by a
17 golf course superintendent on a golf course.

18 (3) The Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection may

19 assess a civil penalty of not more than two thousand five hundred
20 dollars to any person who violates the provisions of subdivision (2) of
21 this subsection for each such violation.

22 (4) The prohibition of subdivision (2) of this subsection shall not
23 apply to any neonicotinoid that is not labeled for use on plants,
24 including, but not limited to, neonicotinoids labeled for use in personal
25 care products, pet care products or for veterinary use.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections: Section 1
October 1, 2024 22a-50(l)

Statement of Purpose: To prohibit the nonagricultural use of neonicotinoids. [Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]

Energy Working Group Minutes
January 9, 2025
5PM via Zoom

Attendees:

- Stephen Sack
- Michael Cocca
- Christine Feely
- Catherine Diviney
- Bernard Pelletier

Discussion:

- Elmwood Business Association: February 7th at 8:30 AM Christina D'Amato of Energy Resources will conduct a discussion efficiency programs available to business owners in town. Stephen Sack is the leader of the association. The discussion will be high level and conversational. Her firm is here but she is speaking as a program educator:
 - <https://energyresourcesusa.net>
- Still to be scheduled we are also planning to have Christina do a taped interview session at WHCi – hopefully last week of January. Format:
 - 5 minute introduction to commission
 - Program discussion by Christina
 - Wrap up and mention any upcoming events if any
- Bernie – Jim – to reach out to list of Affordable Multifamily owners about project Sunbridge
- Catherine and Christine to review SustainableCT for building checklists adopted in other towns. Michael Cocca to review lists when we find them. Purpose is to merge these other town ideas with the check list we already have adopted.
- Discussion of clean quiet lawn care equipment outreach and education. A strategy deck is in the works for future discussion