



Sustainable Westport Advisory Team

July 16th 2020, 7-9pm

Zoom

Current Version of This Deck: <http://bit.ly/SustWestPpt>



Agenda

1. Check-In / Welcome
2. Public comment
3. Approval of Minutes
4. To-Do List from last meeting
5. Special Items
 - a. Equity & Sustainable Westport
 - i. TEAM Westport – Harold Bailey, Chair
 - ii. SustainableCT – Lynn Stoddard, Exec Director & Ashley Stewart, Equity Coach
 - iii. Other guest viewpoints welcome
6. Team Member Updates
 - a. Review of overall progress & priorities
 - b. AWARE & ENGAGED COMMUNITY
 - i. Updated Resource page on website - Greg
 - ii. Revised stakeholder interview plan - Dawn
 - iii. Other town research - Tony
 - c. PROGRESS TRACKING
 - i. Land & Natural Resources
 1. Food waste update – Pippa & Pete
 2. Tree ordinance - Tony
 - ii. Transport?
 - iii. Buildings?
 - iv. Energy - David
 - d. LEADER DEVELOPMENT
 - e. TOWN COUNSEL AND COURAGE
7. Other small but important updates
 - License agreement – Peter
 - Defining Net-Zero paper – Peter
8. Wrap-up and Agree action list



1. Check-In + Welcome

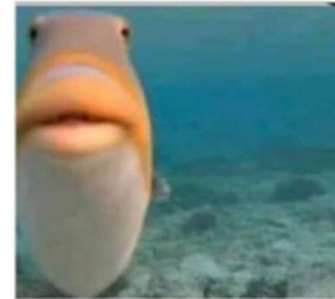
choose your fighter 

william



- logs onto zoom 15 minutes before class starts
- always helps with tech problems
- dresses well even for online
- in a library or some academic setting

walter



- logs onto zoom 15 late
- always has technical difficulties
- doesn't know the difference between zoom and sakai
- asks everyone to repeat what they've said
- nice shirt + pajama pants

winston



- wants to participate but their feed is too slow to keep up
- always loading
- when they do finally get the chance to speak, no one can hear them bc their mic isn't working

warren



- always shows up for zoom
- never participates
- just watches the chaos that ensues

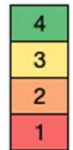
wallace



- watches tv during class
- shows up in their pajamas
- loud eating
- probably in bed
- the camera is WAY too close to their face
- might be in the wrong class?



Room in your home/building, Town & Time-zone (if not East Coast)



1-4 rating plus a word

please right-click on your name and change to how you would like me/others to call on you



2. Public Comment



3. Approval of minutes - June 2020

circulated as separate doc

*Thank You Tony for June!
(Peter, May; Sara, April)*

Who would love to step up this month?!



Running To-Do List

To-Do	Status as of July 9th
Peter to drive coordination / creation of 501c3 with Tony and David in their personal capacity (and any others who would like to feed in, also in their personal capacity)	Done/In-process - Trademark License requested, received and updated – with Town for final edit Tony updating Earthplace for next board (Aug?)
Peter – conduct budget review with Pete R and email tree warden if/when material relevant and available from Tony (item #8 below)	Done - \$16,235.14 in our account but unfortunately some non-SWAT items withdrawing. PB to follow-up with Town
Dawn to draft stakeholder survey and work with Peter and Diana for proposal next month how to action	Done – in following slides
Continue to work on / expand Environmental Learning Series and broader partnership with library (Tony and Peter)	Not yet progressed – Library reopening and for SWAT focused on ZFW webinars..
Pippa - Zero Food Waste Webinars – between now and July on 1. Eating more with less, 2. Home Composting basics, 3. Town of Westport Food Scraps Recycling Drop-off area	Done – success! (update later)
Diana/Peter – post volunteer job description for website administrator	Not yet – focused on briefing Resources tab change this month. Diana briefing us on posts this month
Peter/Tony – Discuss convening of a small group to discuss quiet communities initiative (determining whether it has to wait until 501c3 structure created or whether it can go ahead)	Done – resolved for this to be supported by 501c3 structure asap
Tony – work on wording for tree ordinance, get artwork	Done – Tree ordinance (success!)
Researching other towns (Diana, Tony, Nico)	



5. Special Item(s)

Equity, Anti-Racism & Sustainable Westport

Peter, David, Dawn + guests



Sustainable Westport public comments following last meeting




 sustainablewestport • Following ...
Westport, Connecticut

 sustainablewestport Our town of Westport gathered today in a youth-led demonstration in support of Black Lives Matter and protested the atrocities committed against George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, among many others. Thank you, Westport.

 Jen Berniker @jennyberniker

...
#georgefloyd #breonnataylor
#ahmaudarbery #bethechange
#amplify #sustainablewestport

6d

 tecknow.me Thank you for sharing. Can we repost this?

 Liked by jodybboyd and 196 others

6 DAYS AGO

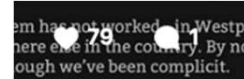
Add a comment... Post

The murder of George Floyd and countless others before expose the ubiquitous and insidious institutional racism in our country. We are grieving and deeply shaken.

George Floyd's death comes at a time when minorities disproportionately bear the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, economic crisis and climate change.

The system has not worked - in Westport or anywhere else in the country. By not doing enough we've been complicit.

We are deeply interested in change. We need to better understand the issues. We are committed to this difficult work and willing to get uncomfortable. We have a lot of work to do: To reach out beyond our normal circles, to learn and to increase diversity of our team. Our next meeting is in July, and this will be at the top of the agenda - please join us.



 sustainablewestport • Following ...
Westport, Connecticut

...

Sustainable Westport advises the First Selectman, town commissions, and departments on determining and setting policy and decisions for the purpose of helping transform Westport into a 'Net-Zero-by-2050' sustainable community, using approaches that are economically viable, equitable and environmentally responsible. We educate, encourage and assist Westport residents, businesses, and the town to adopt sustainable practices consistent with this purpose.

For more information about Sustainable Westport, our mission, and the work we do, please visit our website at sustainablewestport.org.

 Liked by jodybboyd and 78 others

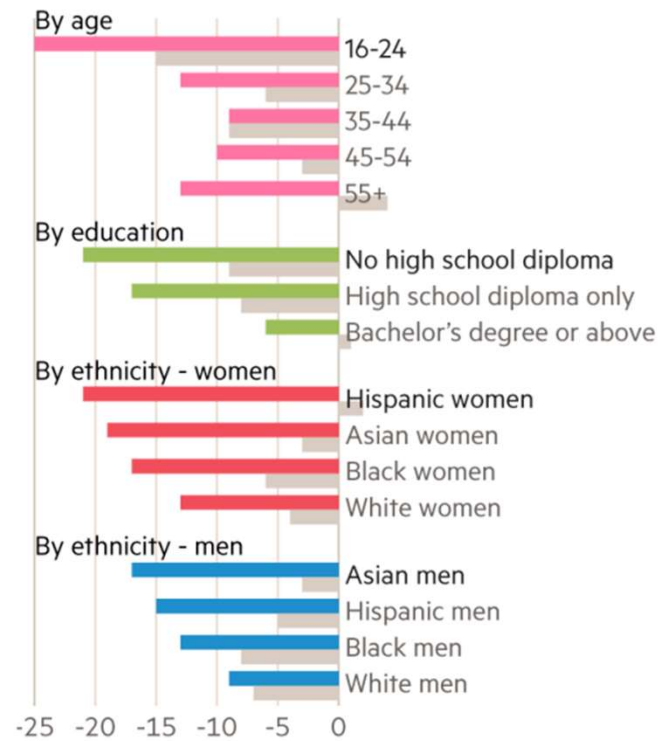
5 DAYS AGO

Add a comment... Post



Covid-19 has added to the pain for vulnerable groups

% change in US employed workers during Covid-19 downturn (■ = Financial crisis)



Source: Pew Research Center

© FT



Equity, Anti-Racism & Sustainable Westport

- Discovery and Idea Share
 - Purpose of discussion: How can we learn and engage more; bring more voices in to this room and get out in to 'other rooms'
 - Invited Guests
 - TEAM Westport – The issues and the opportunities in Westport (process, successes, learnings in Westport across topics)
 - Sustainable CT – equity programs in CT on the environment
 - Westport residents who would like to speak? – any other perspectives on what works, what already exists, where we can grow
- Mission updates/clarification in the future
 - Our original, our correction for Instagram, and our current version in license agreement



TEAM Westport



Harold Bailey, Jr. (Westport, TEAM Westport Chair) is President of Aisha & Co. LLC, a family gift company. He was formerly CEO, Americas for Show Business Software, Ltd. Prior to his retirement as IBM's Vice President of Lotus Marketing Integration, he worked at IBM for 30 years in marketing, sales and services. He is a trustee emeritus of Brown University, his alma mater, from which he also received an honorary Ph.D. He is also a board member of the Westport Country Playhouse, and a founding member of the Stamford chapter of 100 Black Men. Bailey received the Anti-Defamation League's Distinguished Community Leadership award in 2005. He is also a trustee of the Tilton School (NH) from which he received the George L. Plimpton Award for outstanding contribution to society.

<https://www.westportct.gov/government/appointed-boards-a-z/team-westport/about-team/membership>



Sustainable CT



Lynn Stoddard
Executive Director

Lynn has served as the Executive Director of the Institute for Sustainable Energy at Eastern Connecticut State University since 2014. Under Lynn's leadership, the Institute spearheaded and administers Sustainable CT, a voluntary certification program that provides a roadmap and resources to help communities become more efficient, healthy, economically vibrant, resilient, collaborative, and livable. Lynn serves on the Governor's Council on Climate Change, is a board member of the CT Green Building Council, and is an inaugural fellow in the Donella Meadows Leadership Fellows Program. She has over twenty years of experience in developing public policy and managing a broad range of environmental programs in areas including: climate change, energy efficiency, recycling, solid waste planning, pollution prevention, and coastal area management. Lynn holds a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology and Political Science from Bucknell University and a Master's Degree in Regional Planning from the University of Pennsylvania.



Ashley Stewart

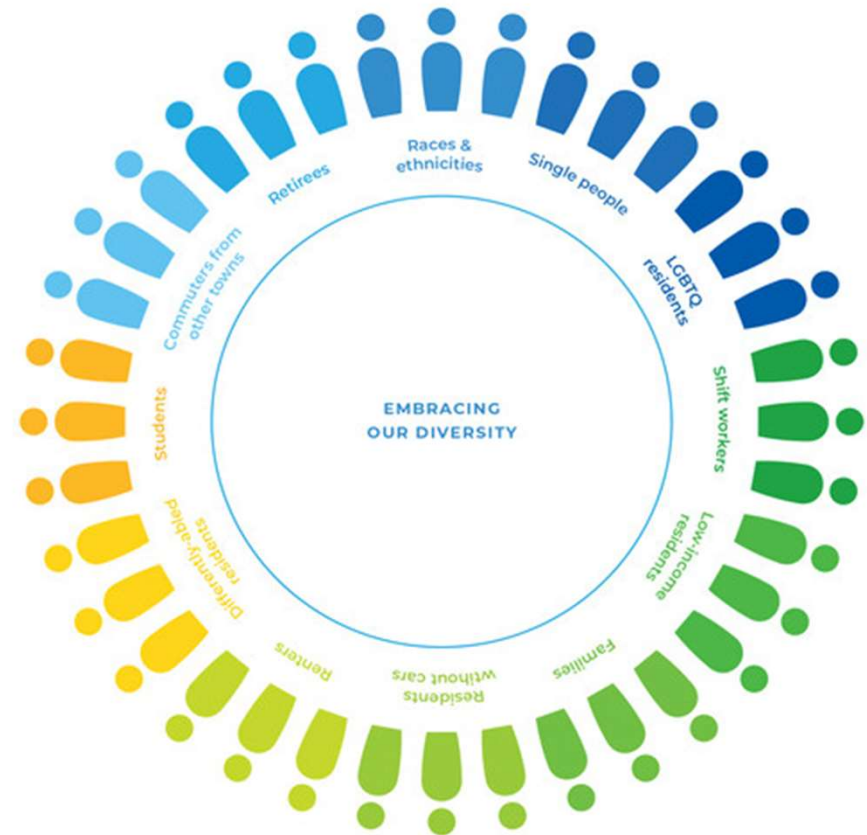
Ashley is a civil engineer with 10 years of experience specializing in water management and infrastructure. Her expertise spans the gamut of water management: distribution, storage, discharge and flood planning. She has distinct experience in environmental planning, permitting, funding, negotiation, construction management, community engagement and leadership experience and is also a trained facilitator.

Ashley has served the State of Connecticut in many ways, supporting municipal planning, protecting the state through management of dams, and through community outreach and engagement. Ashley grew up in and loves Connecticut and looks forward to teaming with towns to grow in equitable sustainability.



Sustainable CT And Equity

Building Equitable Communities with the Sustainable CT Framework



<https://sustainablect.org/no-cost-assistance-programs/sustainable-ct-equity-coach/equity-coaches/>



David Mann

Kick-off Sustainable Westport Reflections; SustCT Training Update; Questions for guests?

The screenshot displays a Zoom meeting interface. On the left, a Google Slides presentation is open, showing a slide titled "BEDI" with four columns of text. The slide content is as follows:

BEDI			
Belonging - The feeling of securing and support when there is a sense of acceptance, inclusion, and identity for a member of a certain group or place.	Equity - Structurally and systemically, everyone in the community has access to the <i>opportunities</i> and the <i>resources</i> they need to <i>thrive</i> .	Diversity - The ways in which people from different demographics experience the community differently - that may affect their <i>experience</i> in terms of engagement, communication, and inclusion.	Inclusion - The ability of the community to ensure that all social identities are fully integrated into the cultural dynamics, leadership, and decision-making structures

On the right, a grid of 20 video feeds shows participants in the meeting. Visible names include: David, Sustainable..., Gerry, Town of Mansfield, Michael SMO, Sarah, Middlebury College, City of Westbury, Jay, Westbury, Jan, Middlebury, Kelly, Mansfield (she/her/hers), Monica, Town of Mansfield, Robert, Greenfield, Vivian C Hardison, Khara, Glaston..., Paul, Meriden, Henry W. Todd, Dave Barger, Lynn, Sustainable..., Yadira Rivera, Lisa, Sustainable..., Gabriel, NVCOG, Amy, East Hartf..., Catherine Rees, Farah and Nasreen, and Greg Falls Villag... The Zoom interface also shows a search bar at the bottom left and a system tray at the bottom with the time 10:46 AM on 7/6/2020.



Open Discussion



Mission – Start 2020

The mission of Sustainable Westport is to become a Net Zero community by the year 2050, where the community has reduced its impacts across energy, water and waste so that they are sustainably managed, using approaches that are economically viable, **of social benefit**, and environmentally responsible.

The Sustainable Westport Advisory team advises the First Selectman, town commissions, and departments on determining and setting environmental policy and decisions for the purpose of transforming Westport into a sustainable green community. Sustainable Westport will educate, encourage and assist Westport residents, businesses, and the town to adopt sustainable practices consistent with this purpose.



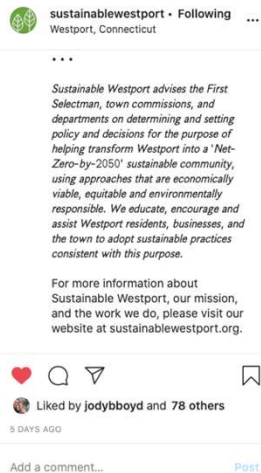
'Who we are' – updated for Instagram / public statement

The murder of George Floyd and countless others before expose the ubiquitous and insidious institutional racism in our country. We are grieving and deeply shaken.

George Floyd's death comes at a time when minorities disproportionately bear the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, economic crisis and climate change.

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Sustainable Westport advises the First Selectman, town commissions, and departments on determining and setting policy and decisions for the purpose of helping transform Westport into a 'Net-Zero-by-2050' sustainable community across energy, water and waste; using approaches that are economically viable, equitable and environmentally responsible.

We educate, encourage and assist Westport residents, businesses, and the town to adopt sustainable practices consistent with this purpose.



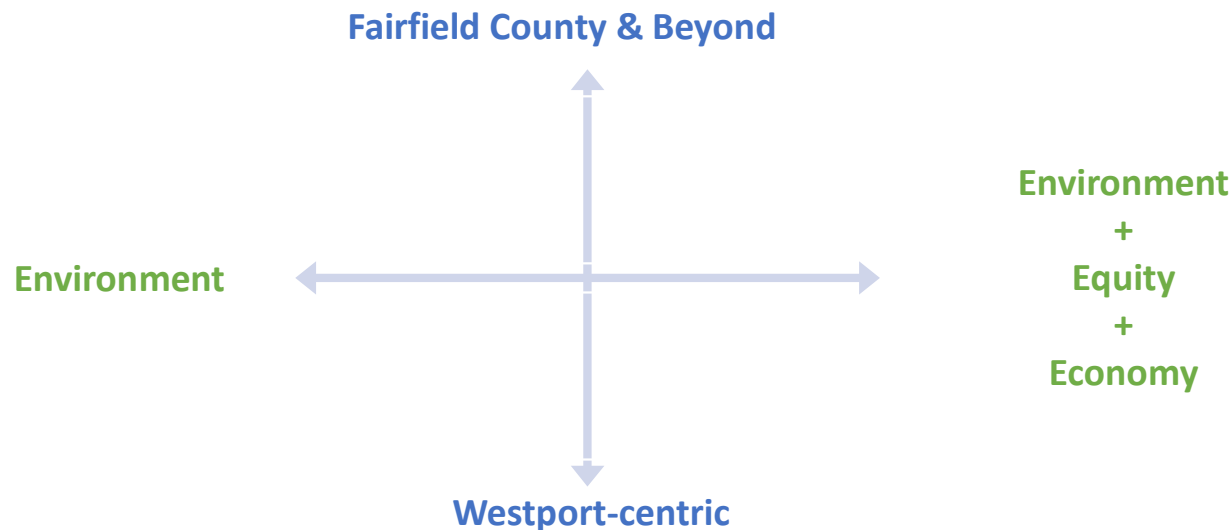
Clarified goal in Trademark Licensing Agreement

[Helping the Town of Westport achieve the goal of]
“achieving Net-Zero energy use by the year 2050, where the community has reduced its impacts across energy, water and waste so that they are sustainably managed, using approaches that are environmentally responsible, economically viable while promoting equity and social benefit”



Equity: A potential framework for helping guide discussions on our future path

- There are several directions we could go in pursuit of incorporating more Equity in our work. A spectrum to consider:
- From left to right = From a tighter focus on environmental sustainability to a broader definition of sustainability that includes economic and equity/social sustainability in addition to environment
 - From bottom to top = From Westport-centric to impacting the broader community





Where we've been: examples

Fairfield County & Beyond

Environmental
Sustainability

Environment+
Equity+
Economy

Zero waste kits

Food Waste

Solar

Green Building Award

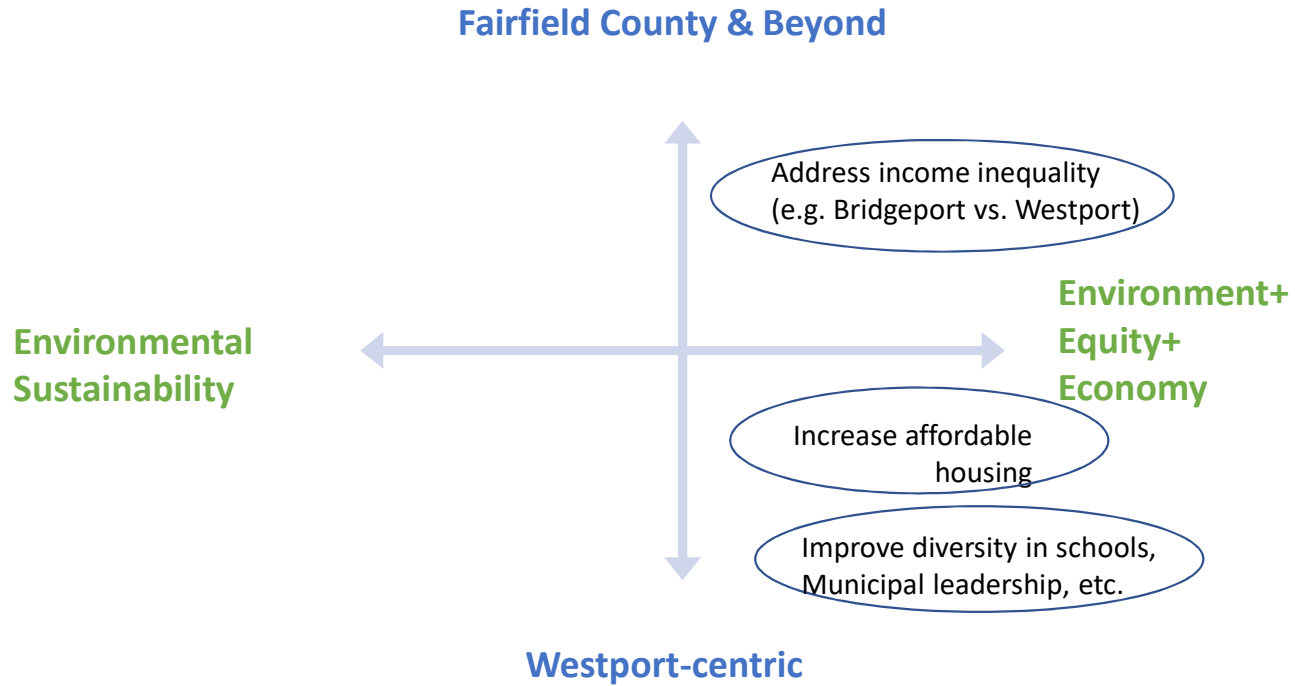
*Multiple attempts to work with
affordable housing community*

Westport-centric

*Program successfully made more
"equitable" through offering free
kits to income eligible, self-funded
by other participants*



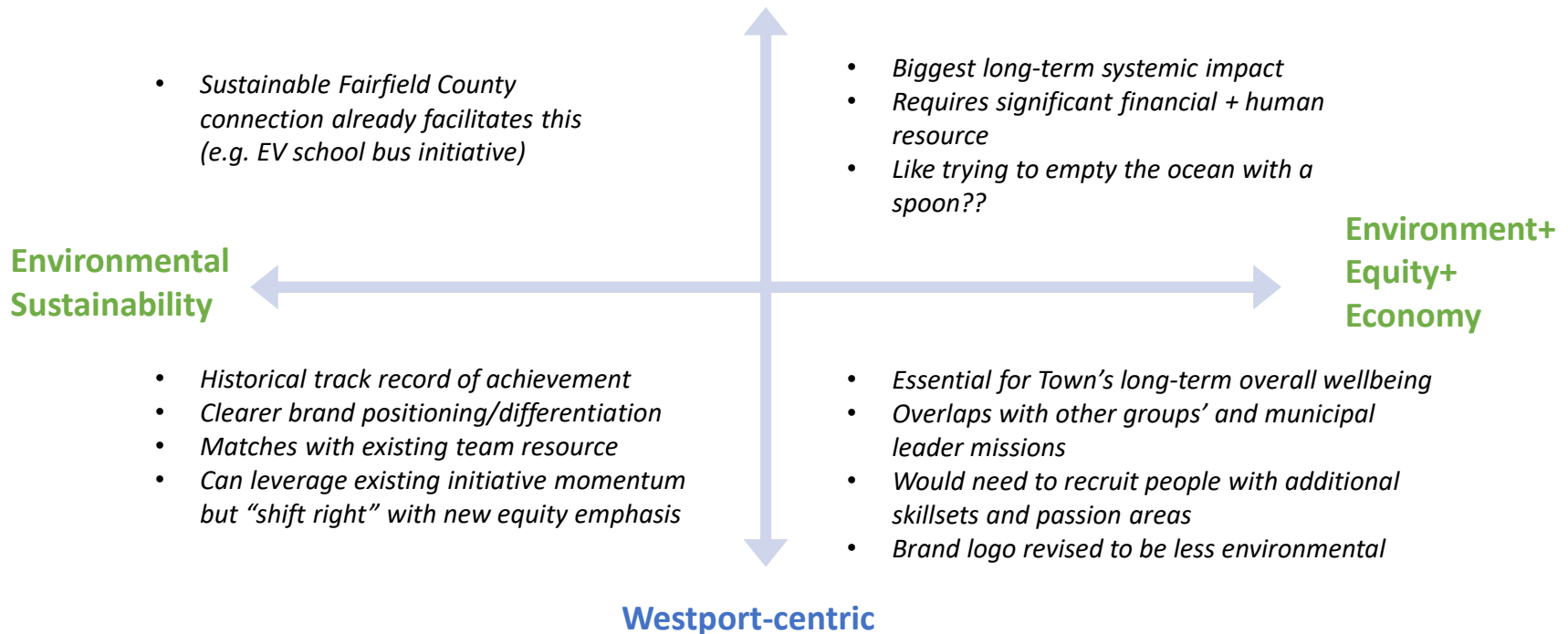
Where we could go from here





What's our lane? Pros and Cons

Fairfield County & Beyond



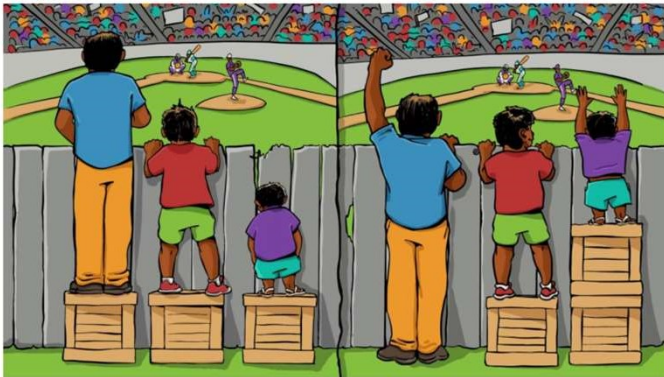


Learning More...

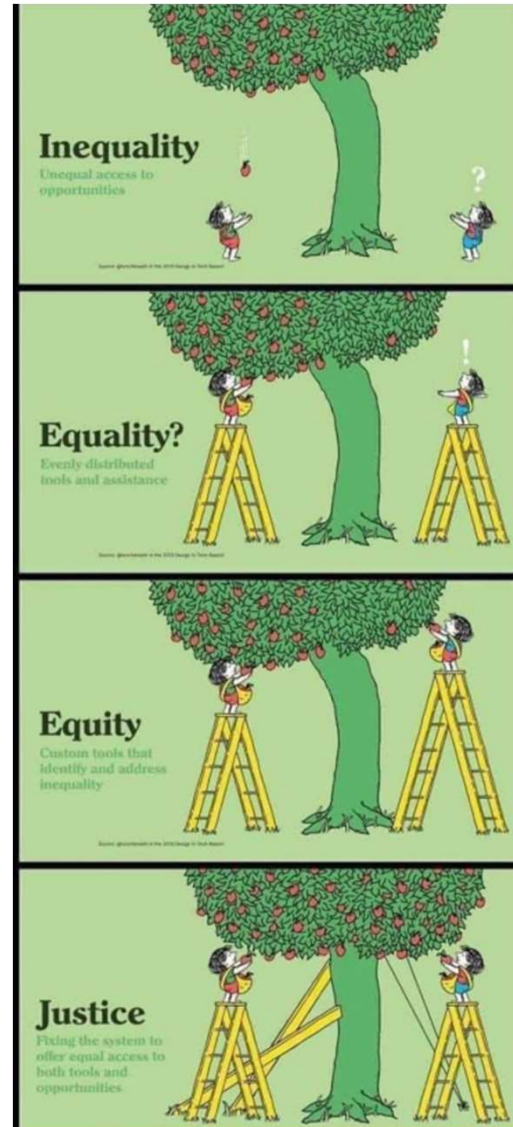
an ever-expanding list we can build on

What's the Difference Between Equity and Equality?

BY ELLEN GUTOSKEY
JUNE 11, 2020



Equality	Equity	Justice
The assumption is that everyone benefits from the same supports. This is equal treatment.	Everyone gets the supports they need (this is the concept of "affirmative action"), thus producing equity.	All 3 can see the game without supports or accommodations because the cause(s) of the inequity was addressed. The systemic barrier has been removed.



<https://www.mentalfloss.com/article/625404/equity-vs-equality-what-is-the-difference>

<http://agentsofgood.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/Equality-vs-Equity-Illustration3.jpg>

Adam Ruins Everything:

The Disturbing History of the Suburbs: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ETR9qrVS17g>

From Airtable: <https://airtable.com/universe/expTAbhKPSRbhFDO3/anti-racist-resources>



6) Team Updates

Town of Westport:
Net Zero by 2050

Priority Area
<i>Aware & Engaged</i> Community
<i>Efficient, comfortable, well-run</i> Buildings & Physical Infrastructure
<i>Reliable, Resilient, Renewable</i> Energy
<i>Clean & convenient choices for</i> Transportation
<i>Responsible stewards of</i> Land, Natural Resources & Waste Management

Sustainable Westport
Group of Volunteers

<i>Sust West Group</i>
COMMUNITY AWARENESS & EDUCATION
<i>Inspiring, Nurturing</i> LEADER DEVELOPMENT
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Inspire</i> • <i>Attract/Find</i> • <i>Onboard</i> • <i>Support / Nurture</i> • <i>Connect</i>
PROGRESS TRACK + CELEBRATE – Help to Measure, Demonstrate, Celebrate
TOWN COUNSEL & COURAGE (“the green conscience”)

This Month Updates – From Agenda

- i. Updated Resource page on website - Greg
- ii. Revised stakeholder interview plan - Dawn
- iii. Other town research - Tony

- i. Land & Natural Resources
 - 1. Food waste update – Pippa & Pete
 - 2. Tree ordinance - Tony
- ii. Transport?
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Aware & Educated Community

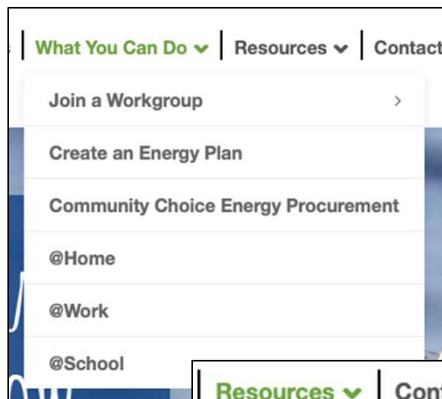
Updates this month on:

- i. Updated Resource page on website - Greg
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- iii. Other town research - Tony



i) Website Update Revamping Resources Tab For 'Seekers'

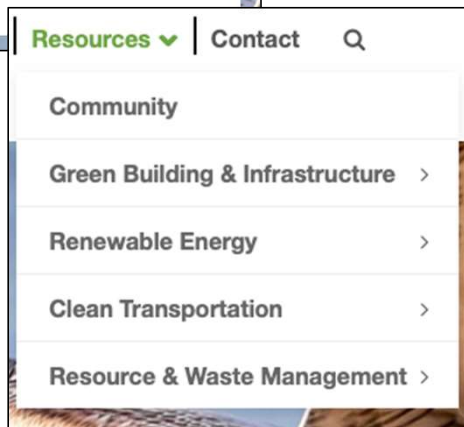
From...



To...

Resources ▾

- **Energy Efficiency** | Reduce consumption & save!
- **Renewable Energy** | Shift from fossil fuels
- **Food Waste** | Reduce to zero
- **Single-Use Plastics** | Reduce then eliminate
- **Recycling** | Increase recycling
- **Pesticides** | Eliminate pesticides & green your yard
- **Public transportation** | Increase adoption
- **Electric Vehicles** | Increase adoption
- **Buy local** | Support our community, reduce our impact
- **Equity** | Promote equity in environmental solutions
- **Climate Change** | Learn more about the wider issue





ii) Stakeholder Discussions

A shortened list of questions



Stakeholder Discussions

- Original objective discussed in May meeting - get feedback from people outside of the Advisory Team on the idea of being a 501c3 vs. Town Body, in terms of attracting volunteers and having influence in the Town.
- REVISED objectives discussed in June meeting – since we already know we’re going to create the 501c3, shift focus to relationship building with key stakeholders and identifying ways to increase our effectiveness.
 - Learn about goals and priorities of stakeholder, and how they might connect to SW
 - Understand current awareness and perceptions of...
 - Sustainability in Westport overall
 - Westport’s Net Zero by 2050 goal
 - Sustainable Westport as an organization
 - Identify opportunities for future collaboration



Discussion Guide for Interviews (1)

- Views on Sustainability overall

Not all questions will make sense for all interviewees...use judgement

- How do you define “sustainability”?
- What’s your perception of how the Town of Westport is doing on sustainability overall?
- Were you aware of the Town’s goal to be “Net-Zero by 2050”?
- How do you feel about the Town having that goal?
- How does your area/department get involved in sustainability and/or supporting that goal?



Discussion Guide (2)

Views on Sustainable Westport

- Tell me what you know about Sustainable Westport (formerly known as the Green Task Force prior to our name change two years ago)
- What interactions/experiences have you had with SW in the past?
- How might you describe the group to someone else who just moved to town? / to your stakeholders?



Discussion Guide (4) Views on Relationship & Structure

- How can SW better work with your group to help achieve your goals?
- Do you have any thoughts on how Sustainable Westport can increase its influence on moving the town to Net Zero by 2050?
- Wrap up/next steps – invite to future meetings, invite to follow in Instagram, thank you, etc.



Interview List – work in progress

Stakeholder	Affiliation	Sust West Team Member(s)
Randy Herbertson	Downtown Merchants Association	Peter & Dawn
Matt Mandell	Chamber of Commerce	Peter & Dawn
Wendy Batteau	RTM Environment Chair	Peter & Dawn
Ellen Lautenberg	RTM Environment	Dawn
Melissa Kane	3 rd Selectwoman	Dawn
Mary Young	Planning & Zoning	Peter & Dawn
Danielle Dobin	Planning & Zoning	Peter & Dawn
Alicia Mosian	Conservation	Peter & Dawn
Harold Bailey	TEAM Westport	David & Peter
Jennifer Fava	Parks & Recreation	Peter & Dawn
Foti Koskinas	Police	Dawn
Bill Harmer	Library	Peter & Tony
Thomas Scarise	School Superintendent	Nico & Peter
tbd	Wakeman Town Farm	Peter
Other? An open-ended list...		



Interview List – work in progress

Stakeholder	Affiliation	Sust West Team Member(s)
Randy Herbertson	Downtown Merchants Association	Peter & Dawn
Matt Mandell	Chamber of Commerce	Peter & Dawn
Jonathan Steinberg	State Representative	xxx
Will Haskell	State Senator	xxx
Wendy Batteau	RTM Environment Chair	Peter & Dawn
Ellen Lautenberg	RTM Environment	Dawn
Andrew Collabella	RTM Environment	xxx
Melissa Kane	3 rd Selectwoman	Dawn
Mary Young	Planning & Zoning	Peter & Dawn
Danielle Dobin	Planning & Zoning	Peter & Dawn
Chip Stevens	Planning & Zoning	xxx
Alicia Mosian	Conservation	Peter & Dawn
tbd	TEAM Westport	David
Jennifer Fava	Parks & Recreation	Peter & Dawn
Foti Koskinas	Police	Dawn
Bill Harmer	Library	Peter & Tony
Thomas Scarise	School Superintendent	Nico & Peter
tbc	Transit Authority	xxx
tbd	Wakeman Town Farm	Peter



iii) Structure Learnings - Update

SUSTAINABLE PRINCETON.

1. Ability to influence has more to do with relationships, ability to add value, and physical proximity than structure/reporting relationship.
2. Having influence in a Town is NOT just about top-down influence and making new governmental policy.
3. The Climate Action Plan drives everything.
4. The best way to attract volunteer help – particularly high skill/high impact experts - is to be incredibly specific and time-bound in the request.
5. 'It takes a certain temperament to succeed as a staff member in a 501c3 like ours'



Inspiring, Nurturing **Leader Development**

Updates (upcoming months) on:

- *Students*
- *501c3 resource*
- *Toolkit*



Progress Tracking & Celebrating

Updates this month on:

- i. Land & Natural Resources
 - 1. Food waste update – Pippa & Pete
 - 2. Tree ordinance - Tony
- ii. Transport?
- iii. Buildings?
- iv. Energy - David



THE ZERO FOOD WASTE CHALLENGE

TO DECREASE WESTPORT'S RESIDENTIAL FOOD WASTE BY 25% OR MORE

**Sustainable Westport Advisory Team update
July 9th, 2020**

15 Partner organizations and growing



westport community gardens



Human and Senior Services





Presentations

Westport Sunrise Rotary	July 3rd
Sustainable Fairfield County meeting	July 6th
Wakeman Town Farm Intern program	July 15th
Your organization meeting here	_____

First Day of Food Scraps Recycling, Monday July 6th



Great Press!



Press Release Sustainable Westport Announces Zero Food Waste Challenge and Food Scraps Recycling

Post Date: 07/07/2020 9:30 AM

Westport, CT - First Selectman Jim Marpe has announced that the Town of Westport, in cooperation with Sustainable Westport, is launching the Zero Food Waste Challenge and the opening of the Food Scraps Recycling drop-off area at the Westport Transfer Station, located at 300 Sherwood Island Connector.

The Sustainable Westport Zero Food Waste Challenge has set a goal to decrease Westport residential food waste by at least 25% over the next year. Food waste is one of the heaviest, wettest, and most expensive waste streams for the Town of Westport to process, and nearly one out of every four bags of groceries end up in the trash.



TUESDAY, JULY 07, 2020

Town Announces 'Zero Food Waste Challenge'

With the goal of reducing residential food waste by 25% over the next year, First Selectman Jim Marpe announced today the opening of a food scraps, recycling drop-off area at the Westport Transfer Station.

According to the announcement, food waste is one of the heaviest, wettest and most expensive waste streams for the town to process, "and nearly one out of every four bags of groceries end up in the trash."

Dubbed the Zero Food Waste Challenge and orchestrated in cooperation with Sustainable Westport, the effort promotes three ways residents can participate.

In addition to the food scraps drop-off center, residents can pay a licensed food waste hauler to have scraps picked up curbside, or they can use the food waste for home composting.

[More "Town Announces 'Zero Food Waste Challenge'"](#)



First Day of Food Scraps Recycling, Monday July 6th



FOOD SCRAP DROP-OFF AREA



- ✓ **FOOD AND COMPOSTABLE ITEMS ONLY**
- ✓ **BPI Certified Compostable bags are accepted**
(available for purchase at Earthplace, 10 Woodside Lane)
- ⊘ **NO** plastic bags, packaging, stickers, rubber bands or twist ties
- ⊘ **NO** pet waste

ACCEPTED ITEMS

- ✓ Fruits and vegetables
(remove stickers, bands and ties)
- ✓ Meat and poultry (bones OK)
- ✓ Fish and shellfish (shells OK)
- ✓ Dairy products
- ✓ Bread and pasta
- ✓ Rice and grains
- ✓ Eggs and eggshells
- ✓ Chips and snacks
- ✓ Nuts and seeds
- ✓ Leftover and spoiled food
- ✓ Coffee grounds (paper filters OK)
- ✓ Tea bags (no staples or nylon mesh bags)
- ✓ Paper towels and napkins
- ✓ Cut flowers
- ✓ BPI Certified Compostable Bags
(no plastic bags)

Starter Kits: 90 requests, and climbing



WHAT DO I NEED TO START?

Although they are not required, food scrap recycling "starter kits" make it easy. Kits are \$25/kit (discounts available for income-eligible) and include:

- Countertop pail
- Storage and transportation bin
- Roll of 25 compostable bags

Kits and additional compostable bags are available at Earthplace
10 Woodside Lane, Westport



- Not Required, but helpful
- Costs \$25
- Free to Income-Eligible while funds last
- Contact ZeroWaste@SustainableWestport.org with questions



Food Scraps pick-up

NGO Sustainability volunteers (Staples High School students or recent graduates) will pick up your food scraps and bring them to the Transfer Station. If interested in this service, contact ZeroWaste@SustainableWestport.org



Grow a Row

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

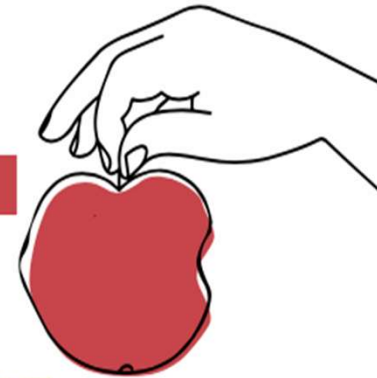


GROW A ROW

PLANT AN EXTRA ROW OF
FOOD IN YOUR GARDEN
TO DONATE; OR DONATE
ANY OVER-ABUNDANCE.

HARVEST RESCUE

DONATE IMPERFECT
PRODUCE RATHER THAN
DISPOSING OF IT.



Some Waste-Less Suggestions from Community

Influencers



Stacey Williams



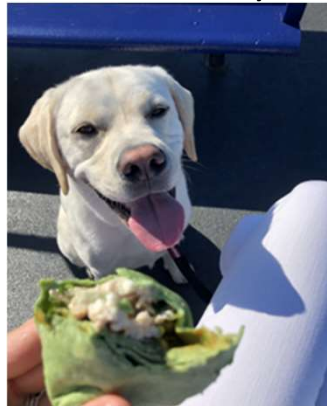
Eileen Flug

Melissa Kane



Pippa Bell Ader

Dawn Henry

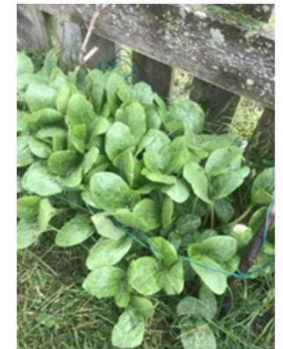


Peter Boyd



Cornelia Olsen

Diane Yormark



Questions? Watch webinars



Eat More with Less! A Webinar with Chef Raquel

Learn what changes you can make in planning and preparing meals and preserving food, so you can eat more with less, and decrease your food waste footprint. Bridgeport-based Chef Raquel, a cooking educator and caterer, is passionate about healthful eating. She will guide us through practical and actionable food tips and tricks during this webinar.



Questions? Watch webinars

Composting Basics with Alice Ely, Master Composter

Want to turn over a new leaf AND decrease food waste? How about turning over some compost? Learn how you can save water, reduce pollution, and improve your garden when you start making "black gold" at home. It's easier than you think!





Questions? Watch webinars



Town of Westport Food Scraps Recycling—All you need to know about this NEW, FREE program!

Starting July 6th, the Town of Westport will be collecting food scraps at the Transfer Station to be turned into compost. Find out how the program works and what can and can't be recycled.

[Click to Register](#)



Transfer Station Volunteer Orientation Webinar

- Held on June 23rd
- Webinar to be posted on
Sustainable Westport website
- Always welcome additional volunteers
On Saturdays, from 7am-noon!!





Progress Tracking & Celebrating

Tree Ordinance - Tony



Tree Ordinance

On behalf of Earthplace and the Sustainable Westport Advisory Team, we respectfully request that the Tree Ordinance includes language that promotes the planting of native vs. non-native species of trees and shrubs. There is a significant difference in habitat value for insects and caterpillars that feed native birds. Here are some examples:

<https://www.audubon.org/native-plants/search?zipcode=06880>

Also, articles like this speak to the importance of providing food for native birds by planting native species:

<https://www.allaboutbirds.org/news/its-true-a-yard-full-of-native-plants-is-a-yard-full-of-well-fed-birds/>

Attached is suggested language that could be added to the ordinance.

The purpose of this Article is:

- A. To promote and protect the public health, safety and general welfare by providing for the regulation of the planting, maintenance, protection, and removal of Trees and Shrubs on public property within the Town of Westport;
- B. To recognize and appreciate that Trees produce oxygen, capture carbon dioxide from the atmosphere, provide air purification, prevent soil erosion, control flooding, assist water purification, contribute to the quality of life by providing cooling shade, **habitat and sustenance for birds and wildlife, reduced** noise levels, calm traffic, improve property values and aesthetically enhance the landscape; and
- C. To protect the Town of Westport and its residents from property damage caused or threatened by the improper planting, maintenance or removal of Trees and Shrubs.

Sec. ___ PURPOSE AND DUTIES OF THE TREE BOARD

The Tree Board shall:

- A. Advise and assist the Tree Warden.
- B. Provide a written report indicating recommendations, preliminary approvals, final approvals or disapprovals for special permits and/or site plans, as applicable, as required by the Westport Zoning Regulations.
- C. Promote maintenance, restoration, survival and planting of Trees and Shrubs on Public Property.
- D. Educate the public to recognize the benefits provided by Trees and Shrubs including, but not limited to:
 1. Buffering noise
 2. Buffering unsightly views
 3. Improving air quality
 4. Preventing erosion
 5. Absorbing water (including flood control)
 6. Mitigating climate by cooling the air and providing shade
 7. **The ecological value of native vs. non-native species of trees and shrubs**
 8. **Offering habitats to insects and caterpillars that feed native birds**
 9. Increasing property values



Progress Tracking & Celebrating

Energy - David



Town Counsel & Courage

Updates here on:

- Key meetings with Town
- Advice/Opinions sought



7) Small Quick Items

1. License Agreement
2. Defining 'Net-Zero' – Pre-Publication Link (so any feedback / typos spotted are welcome...):
<https://bit.ly/CBEYNetZero>

To Achieve Net-Zero, Let's Agree on One Definition of Success

Addressing climate change requires coupling high ambition with a clear, bold definition of 'Net-Zero'



Peter Boyd and Casey R. Pickett

 Yale Center for Business and the Environment

Yale SCHOOL OF FORESTRY & ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

JUNE 2020



8) Wrap-up Round-The-(Zoom)Room

Greg

Diana

Tony

Dawn

Steve S

Sara

David

Peter

All