

Minutes
Cleaner Greener Hingham Committee
Thursday February 12, 7pm, Hybrid

Attendees: Janice McPhillips, Mark Engel, Peter Swanson, Michael Poling, Maria Zade

Guests: Lance Moreland, Patricia Burke

Absent: Tony George

Call to Order: Co-chair Janice McPhillips called the hybrid meeting to order at 7:05pm and read the obligatory opening statement.

1. Updates from the Transfer Station / DPW:

Lance Moreland (Assistant Superintendent of the DPW) provided an update from the Transfer Station. The Black Earth program has had 10 residential signups for curbside pickup. Black Earth has taken .36 tons of food waste (~2 trips) from the totes at the High School. So far it is just cafeteria food prep waste, not from students' lunches. The flyers have now been provided by Black Earth. Maria will push the flyers out via the PTOs and Green Teams. Following that, the Town can send out another Newsflash. There is a flyer for every school because the schools can get credit towards their future lunch food waste composting program. There will also be a generic flyer. When Peter and Janice go to the Winter Farmers Market on March 21, they can bring the demo bin and the QR code. It may also be possible to promote the program at the entry table at Town Meeting.

In terms of HDPE plastic, there have been nine bales picked up since the program began last summer. There have been no rejected bails since the last meeting.

Peter and Michael shared their idea for new signage to encourage proper redeemable can recycling. Lance shared that it is helpful for people to appropriately sort their redeemables as it saves the Town money. Peter will send the mockup to Lance for Ashley's approval and next steps. Lance will also ask about whether we can have a sign that indicates which community group is benefiting each cycle. Maria will create scheduled posts with the list of community organizations benefiting each cycle.

2. Updates on food scraps collection by Black Earth Compost at Hingham Schools

Pilot program continues to go well at Hingham High School.

3. Status of 2026 CGHC Education goals for 2026

The Committee debated various educational goals for 2026. We will continue our work supporting the DPW while also supporting the Town's Sustainability Coordinator.

4. Town wide cleanup in 2026

Michael Poling will organize. We talked about a central pickup location at the Hingham Bathing Beach. Janice will talk to Ashley about the donation of gloves, bags, and maybe coffee / donuts. Tentative date April 11.

5. Cleaner Greener Hingham Annual report

Maria wrote and submitted the annual report for 2025.

6. Approve minutes from 1/8/26

The minutes were approved.

7. Items not reasonably anticipated 48 hours in advance

None.

8. Adjourn at 9pm or before

The meeting adjourned at 9pm.

Next meeting Thursday March 12, 7pm