

Minutes
Cleaner Greener Hingham Committee
Date: June 18, 2026 at 7pm
Hybrid Location: Hingham Public Library and on Zoom

Members Present: Mark Engel, Janice McPhillips, Maria Zade, Peter Swanson,
Guests: Kathleen Scannel, Kevin Scannel, Greta Gustafson
Absent: Mike Poling

Co-chair Janice McPhillips called the meeting to order at 7:07pm by reading the hybrid opening statement.

1. Encouraging nearby towns to adopt similar plastic reduction policies and bylaws as Hingham

The committee was encouraged to see that Hanover recently passed a plastic bag ban. This news encouraged members to get in touch with the organizers of that movement to see if they would be interested in bringing forward a plastic water bottle ban at a future Town Meeting. The benefits for Hingham would be leveling the playing field for Hingham businesses.

Action Items : Maria to get in touch with Lexie Schiller (Hanover High School student behind the ban) and her teacher (Mr. McLean); Mark to research Norwell's existing plastic reduction bylaws

2. Transfer Station Updates

Deferred to the next meeting.

3. Black Earth promotion

We received permission to distribute flyers promoting the Town's partnership with Black Earth Compost at the Transfer Station on June 28. Based on the success of this action, the Committee may decide to repeat it again before the end of the summer.

Action Item: Mark to distribute from 2 - 3pm and Maria to distribute from 3-4pm on June 28 and to report back to the Committee on efficacy.

4. CGHC at the Hingham Farmers ' Market

The Committee discussed whether this event continues to be a good use of time for the Committee given that many HFM attendees are not Hingham residents. Our next date for the community table is to-be-determined, but maybe in October.

Action Item: Janice to schedule community table, if that is what the Committee wants

5. Promoting Composting in the Hingham Public Schools

The Black Earth Composting program at the High School appears to be going well. Focus in the fall will be on finding funding to expand the program to the K-8 level.

6. Community Outreach and Education in Local Media

The Committee discussed various education and outreach options.

The following articles are in progress for the Hingham Anchor:

- Composting (Janice/Charlie Inglis)
- Redeemable Cans (Janice/Maria)
- Textile Recycling (?)

Maria to update the CGHC website to reflect the partnership with Black Earth and newer composting resources.

Janice to get in touch with Greet Hingham about article opportunities.

7. Approve minutes

The minutes of the May meeting were approved.

8. Upcoming meeting and adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 9pm.

Upcoming meetings:

July 16 at 7pm