

NH Network Plastics Working Group (PWG) #22
Sunday, June 19, 2022, 6 pm

Next Meeting: Sunday, July 17, 2022, 6 pm

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 627 560 9302

Passcode: garden

[Plastics Working Group Slide Deck Link](#)

[Ten Towns Toolkit Slide Deck Link](#)

[Ten Towns Toolkit website Link](#)

[PWG Facilitator Schedule](#)

 PWG Visioning Workshop

 Ten Towns Ten Actions Promotion Pieces

(All are invited to add resources to the first two slide decks)

CHALLENGE FOR EVERY MEETING: Bring a high school or college student

Attending: Mary Armstrong (FACILITATOR), Kristine Baber (NOTES), Cindy Heath, Cindy Walter, Christina Dubin, Bonnie Christie, Patsy Beffa-Negrini, Ann Podlipny, Reb MacKenzie, Kennedy McGrath

Agenda:

- 5:30 pm: On-boarding for new members - website overview, Google tools orientation
- 6:00 pm: Introductions, New Members, All; Land Acknowledgement (slide 7)
- 6:10 pm: Updates from Team Members on Actions and Challenges
- 7:00 pm: June NH Network Summit Report (held on Sat 6/18) from Patsy
- 7:15 pm: Plastic Free July - Press Release, Updates - Patsy and Everyone
- Next Steps/Future Agenda Items

Updates from Team Members

- **Kristine Baber (Dover)** The Dover Plastics Group is focused on getting the City Council to issue a Proclamation for July to be Plastic Pollution Reduction Month in conjunction with Plastic Free July. The group also is developing Actions of the Week based on our Green Tips. They will be briefer versions of the Green Tips with distribution planned through the Dover Dems and the city of Dover's Dover Download electronic newsletter. These will be shared with other towns, as well. Also continuing to work on encouraging restaurants to use more sustainable practices and choose reusables. Will be working with Christina to build on the Ocean Friendly Restaurant model.
- **Reb MacKenzie (Claremont)** Working with the Anti-Litter Task Force. They are not doing Plastic Free July but will do a Plastics Reduction Program that will launch when the Pleasant St project has a grand opening in August. Made contact with the school and hope to coordinate a program with them on microplastics.
- **Bonnie Christie (Hopkinton)** Focusing on Plastic Free July. The Select Board will finalize the Proclamation tomorrow and the School Board Chair will support it. The library will hand out bookmarks and will also show a film. Going to use the challenge sheet from Plastic Free July with more detailed information on the flip side. Bonnie asked whether we can identify films of different lengths and for different audiences?
- **Ann Podlipny (Chester)** Not doing Plastics Free July. Doing plastic free picnic with scavenger hunt where children will find items and decide whether something should be used or not used. Library will be showing two films for children. Hopes to work with their school on Plastics Free Schools. Suggested checking out work of Iona Elizabeth Johnson. <https://pioneerworks.org/programs/science-society-our-plastic-problem> Ann raised a question about our group having a pamphlet that can be used at different tabling events.

- **Kennedy McGrath (Durham)** Doing research on microplastics in Great Bay. She has found two people to come to talk about microplastics at our meeting.
- **Mary Armstrong (Harrisville)** Will be doing a Plastic Free July panel which will include Christina Dubin. Keene State will be hosting it. Mary has sent out information. There will be four speakers and then time for questions. Working with town committees to see what else can be done. Will do bin monitoring, education, and tabling for Plastic Free July. Working on a styrofoam collection program which will transport foam to the densifier in Gilford.
- **Cynthia Walter(Dover)** Cynthia presented at the NH Network Summit on Saturday on the Plastic Working Groups' focus and progress highlighting the Ten Towns Initiative and our website. She is working with the Dover Plastics Group on July activities and coordinated a tabling event at the Dover Dems' garage sale in early June.
- **Cindy Heath (Cornish Flats)** Impressed with Summit. Guilford Public Works densifier should be showing up right after 4th of July. Lyndonville, VT also is receiving a densifier after the 4th of July. Will be two locations for collection. Nonresidents can drop off foam at the Public Works garage in Gilford. Rotary clubs will start promoting foam collection and deliver the foam to Gilford. Public Education needs to accompany this initiative and will be next on the agenda. Promoting PFJ-library doing displays and screening Microplastic Madness. Continuing conversations with local Blue Sky Restaurant Group which is interested in exploring the Ocean Free Restaurant designation. She is still working on the project with the co-op food store in regard to single use plastic.
- **Patsy Beffa-Negrini (Nelson)** Added alternatives to SUP to the Ten Towns website including information from Surfrider. Also started a page on the website on bottle bill legislation. Hope to get Peterborough and Keene involved in TT. Hope to get a statewide press release out on Plastic Free July.
- **Christina Dubin (Portsmouth)** Christina has been joined by Jess Blasko of The Refill Station in Portsmouth to create a Portsmouth Public Library display. They will have a book display working off the Dover list, a display case with items like nurdles and reusable swaps, the t-shirt to tote take & make, and 2D displays focusing on reusables. We will also of course have a portion about Ten Towns and how to join the effort. All of this will serve as a promo for a screening of The Story of Plastic that Jess is leading which will likely occur in September.

This Tuesday Christina will be joining some fellow Surfrider Foundation NH chapter executive committee members to table a pre-show as part of the Jack Johnson [All at Once campaign](#) at the Bank of NH Pavilion. All At Once promotes Sustainable Local Food Systems and Plastic Free Initiatives. There will be a Rise Above Plastic display and they will promote the Plastic Free July challenge, as well as the Ten Towns Toolkit there as well.

Funds From Community Action Works

Cindy raised the issue of the \$2000 funding available through Community Action Works that Hayley told us about. The money needs to be either allocated or spent by July 1st. Cindy will get clarification about this. Community Actions Works can transfer the money to us, but it would be good if it could go to one of our constituent groups that has a fiscal agent. Hayley also offered to write grants to supplement these funds.

There was discussion about how these funds might be used. Cindy offered the idea of having Edie Farwell Director of Sustainability Leaders Network do some training with Ten Towns leaders based on the book *Thinking in Systems*. There might be a ten person maximum for such a training which would involve reading the book and meeting with Edie for discussion.

Other ideas for use of the money were raised which included a pamphlet/brochure about the Ten Towns Initiative, bookmarks for Plastic Free July, and cards for customers to leave with restaurants urging them to use sustainable practices including reusables rather than SUP.

The group believed that all the ideas were critical and that we should try to do all of them. All were seen as important, but a majority of the group thought that since there were many opportunities to distribute the printed materials during the summer and particularly associated with Plastics Free July, we should move ahead at once with them. Several members volunteered to work on these items.

- Pamphlet/Brochure: Kennedy, Ann, Reb, perhaps Hanna from the Dover Plastics Group
- Cards to leave with restaurants: Kristine and Christina will work on
- Bookmarks: These are done but need some finishing touches.

Restaurant Project:

The concept of building upon Surfrider Foundations' Ocean Friendly Restaurant project came up several times during the meeting. Christine is ready to work with different towns to adapt their model. Bonnie noted that she hoped to work on the idea of River Friendly Restaurants which would be somewhat different and was planning to work with DES' Rivers Management Program.

Summit

The group thanked Cynthia for her excellent presentation at the Summit. There also was agreement that the presentation on health issues was very impactful and it was suggested that we should integrate health information into what we present. Bob Dewey is in the speakers bureau for NH Healthcare Workers for Climate. It was suggested that we could have him speak to our group and also see if he could integrate more on microplastics. Reb offered to contact him.

Other Ideas Raised For Consideration

During the meeting, several ideas were raised for consideration with no decisions made about them. These include:

- Create a list of different films and videos of different lengths and aimed at different audiences.
- Creating a slide in the slide deck for information about different projects that towns are working on such as reusable resources for restaurants so we can collaborate rather than each town duplicating efforts because they are not aware of others efforts.
- Consider connecting with Businesses for Social Responsibility.
- Identify the best tabling venues in the state that we can take advantage of.

Outcomes/Action Items

- Cindy will contact Hayley to determine whether the \$2000 from Community Action Works needs to be allocated or spent by July 1.
- Identify a group that could act as fiscal agent if the funds are awarded to us.
- Kennedy, Ann, & Reb will develop a pamphlet/brochure about Ten Towns Initiative and the Ten Towns website based on information already produced.
- Christina & Kristine will develop cards to leave with restaurants to encourage sustainable practices and reusables.
- Revise bookmarks as needed to be used for Plastic Free July related activities.
- Cindy & Kennedy will start working on the Fall Seminar Series
- Reb will contact Bob Dewey regarding speaking with the PWG

Previous PWG Meeting Notes

[Meeting Notes #1 - August 1, 2021](#)

[Meeting Notes #2 - August 15, 2021](#)

[Meeting Notes #3 - August 29, 2021](#)

[Meeting Notes #4 - September 19, 2021](#)

[Meeting Notes #5 - October 3, 2021](#)

[Meeting Notes #6 - October 17, 2021](#)

[Meeting Notes #7 - October 31, 2021](#)

[Meeting Notes #8 - November 14, 2021](#)

[Meeting Notes #9 - November 28, 2021](#)
[Meeting Notes #10 - December 12, 2021](#)
[Meeting Notes #11 - January 9, 2022](#)
[Meeting Notes #12 - January 23, 2022](#)
[Meeting Notes #13 - February 6, 2022](#)
[Meeting Notes #14 - February 20, 2022](#)
[Meeting Notes #15 - March 13, 2022](#)
[Meeting Notes #16 - March 27, 2022](#)
[Meeting Notes #17 - April 10, 2022](#)
[Meeting Notes #18 - April 24, 2022](#)
[Meeting Notes #19 - May 8, 2022](#)
[Meeting Notes #20 - May 22, 2022](#)
[Meeting Notes #21 - June 5, 2022](#)
[Meeting Notes #22 - June 19, 2022](#)

Community Action Works Notes

[Campaign Planning Principles, Decision-Making Chart, Kick Off Meeting Notes](#)
[#2 October 17 - Goal Setting & Timeline Notes](#)
[#3 November 14 - Messaging Workshop Handbook](#)
[#4 November 14 - Messaging Notes](#)
[#5 November 28 - Messaging & Slogan](#)
[#6 January 3 - Communications Work Group Meeting Docs](#)
[#7 June 5 - Updates and Legislative Planning , Campaign Planning PDF, Visioning Workshop](#)