

Minutes
Cleaner Greener Hingham Committee Meeting
Thursday July 16 , 2026 at 7pm
Location: Hybrid In person at Town Hall and remote via Zoom

Co-chair Janice McPhillips called the meeting to order at 7:06pm.

Members present: Janice McPhillips, Maria Zade, Kathleen Scannel, Nicolaas (Nick) Barrett, Mike Poling, Mark Engel

Absent: Peter Swanson

Guests: Patricia Burke (Town of Hingham Sustainability Coordinator), John K (no last name identified on zoom)

1. Introduction and welcome to new committee members:

The Committee welcomed two new committee members: Kathleen Scannel and Nicolaas (Nick) Barrett. Kathleen's areas of interest as related to the Committee recycling, composting, and water conservation. Nicolaas is interested in infrastructure development, specifically energy and efficient waste management.

2. Set educational goals and priorities for 2026-2027

Goal 1: 250 new signups for the Black Earth Composting pilot by November 2026. The significance of 250 new signups is to reach the new pricing tier.

Action Item: Ask the DPW for businesses to put flyers in local businesses (Janice McPhillips)

Action Item: Hand out flyers at the Transfer Station AND set up a table for people who may have questions (Kathleen Scannel)

Action Item: Ask the Town Clerk about a potential partnership with the Boy Scouts (Mike Poling)

Goal 2: To increase outreach from the Committee to residents

Action Item: Increased social media presence measured by 1-2 posts per month on the Town's social media channels (Maria Zade)

Action Item: Partnerships with local influencers (goal of 2 influencer partnerships at the end of year) and other outlets such as Greet Hingham (Janice McPhillips)

Action Item: Research possibilities for increased social media presence (Nicolaas Barrett ???)

Goal 3: Update website to reflect current priorities and initiatives

Action Item: Update website with Town's IT department (Maria Zade)

Goal 4: Limiting number of permitted waste haulers working in Hingham

Action Item: Write a question for the Town's attorney and Select Board liaison with details as to what other communities have been able to do and what Hingham can do (Mark Engel)

Goal 5: Increase redeemable can deposits

Action Item: Email Boy Scout Eagle Scouts to see if they are interested in revamping educational signage at the TS. (Mike Poling)

Action Item: Hingham Anchor article (Janice McPhillips / Maria Zade)

3. Continued from June - Encourage other nearby towns to adopt similar policies as Hingham (ban on single use water bottles and plastic bags)

Given recent water quality issues in neighboring communities, the issue was tabled until further notice.

4. Any updates from the TS / DPW on Black Earth Compost curbside pickup

Patricia reports a total of 31 new signups for Black Earth Compost curbside pickup since January 2026, marking one new signup from the last meeting.

5. Next date for CGHC members to educate Transfer Station visitors about Black Earth Compost in July and August.

Kathleen to do several dates in July and August, starting on July 26. Maria and Mark handed out flyers on Sunday June 28 from 2-4pm. There was no time to talk to residents so ask DPW if we can set up an info table next time.

6. Next date for Cleaner Greener Hingham community table at the Hingham Farmers Market to promote Black Earth Compost and redeemable cans

The current date is October 3. If there is a cancellation, then we can take it.

7. Plans for community education.

See goals discussed under Agenda Item 2.

8. Approve the minutes from 6/18/26.

The minutes were approved.

9. Schedule next meetings

Next meeting will be Thursday August 13

10. Items not reasonably anticipated 48 hours in advance
none

11. Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Maria Zade