



Long Island Sound Study
Public Involvement and Education Work Group
Teleconference
Oct. 31, 2018

Ten participants: George Hoffman, Maureen Dolan-Murphy, Amanda Pachomski, Robert Burg, Anna Weshner-Dunning, Leanne Bloom, Judy Preston, Mark Parker, MaryEllen Mateleska, Jim Ammerman

Updates

- Leanne from STS: 2018 LIS Report Card came out in September; part of the Unified Water Study. <http://www.ctenvironment.org/report-card>
- Robert LISS: Public hearing re the CT Blue Plan on Nov 8 in Stamford hosted by CT DEEP and TNC. <https://www.depdata.ct.gov/calendar/viewev.asp?id=6866>
- Judy CTSG/LISS: public meeting on NERR hybrid site at UConn Avery Point Groton on Nov.13 https://www.ct.gov/deep/cwp/view.asp?a=2586&Q=606114&deepNav_GID=1511
- MaryEllen from Mystic Aquarium: texting campaign starting re single-use plastics reduction; working with 23 other aquariums nationally involving social media, resources for businesses with local focus: contact MaryEllen for details mmateleska@mysticaquarium.org

Anna presented re National Estuaries week (a nationwide celebration) event in Peconic Estuary with South Shore Estuary Reserve and LISS; hoping to have this be an annual event, with next year hosted by LISS in Port Jefferson, LI. Discussion ideas included: theme next year to be plastics pollution. Food needed to attract families, also possible beach clean-up. One suggestion re having local food – ex. Mac & cheese tasting with voting. Natural link between Port Jeff and Bridgeport; opportunity here to connect two states with LIS experience. Should include Product Stewardship Institute for guidance re plastics reduction guidance for food vendors. Also suggest using compostable cutlery, re-usable mugs, etc. No date for 2019; likely mid to late September.

Robert presented brief update on the summer's social media campaign on reduce single-use plastics: 60% increase over last year people looking at posts. More local events (beach clean-up in CT and NY with Sea Grant); More local press and good coverage. Question re a third year for this topic? If doing plastics topic for NEP, plus Mystic Aquarium plastic campaign, may be good match.

Judy/Robert provided quick update re revisiting the CCMP Sustainable & Resilient Communities after 5 years; need to report progress. Will be looking at this over next couple years.

Robert announced that it's been 10 years since the LISS website was updated; will be refreshing over the next year and asking for input, information, photos from all.

Mark requested more give-away items for outreach; LISS has recycled tire jar grips, CTSG has more plastics campaign stickers (flounder and plover) available.

Next PIE call/webinar will be in January 2019.