1. Meeting called to order at 4:30 PM. Roll call:
   - Members Present: Paula Jones, Valerie Rossetti, David Hager, Zellene Sandler
   - Members Absent: none
   - Guests present: Stephanie Bahramian (Environmental Planner), Jose Giner (Land Use and Economic Development), Carmelo Garofalo, Claudia Gwardyak, Robert Dickinson, Ellen Castaldini, Nancy Bowden

2. Approval of Agenda as is at 4:32 PM.

3. Minutes of May 13, 2021; June 10, 2021; and July 8, 2021 were approved.

4. Environmental Planner: Update from Stephanie Bahramian
   - Proposal for AARP “Livable Community Grant”: potentially for sitting benches at up to $5,000. They could be 3 benches to match the town green bench design or similarly designed benches in the Wintonbury Library/Rockwell Ave. area. Application is due by end of September. Stephanie will speak with community members to fine tune the design. TREX products are a possibility. This could extend the library into outdoor spaces.
   - Farmer’s Market for 2022 is being planned at the First Cathedral on Blue Hills Ave from June to October on Thursdays from 3-6 PM. It will include farm products and non-profit educational booths. Parking facilities and location are optimal. A survey for community members is planned for October. Hopefully once this survey information is shared, additional vendors will become interested. Stephanie can give a talk about “Sustainable Procurement” in October. An RFP will be put out in November soliciting potential vendors and giving them information on how to become a CT Approved Vendor. A community fund can be created which could be matched by Sustainable CT. The cost per vendor is still to be determined.

5. Old Business:
   (a) Shred Day & Electronics Recycling: October 2nd 9AM-1PM or until the truck fills. Carmela is volunteering with Paula as are multiple town staff and some students. Take 2 Recycling and File Shred are participating. More volunteers are needed! They should wear gloves and bring a lawn chair. Ideally, volunteers should be identified by a vest or T-shirt. Participants will receive a one-page, two-sided flier. Items for this flier will be solicited from the town departments. An updated poster sign is planned. Information on appropriate shred items will be placed in the Green News as will a notice of a 3 bag limit. DPW will provide a truck for the donated food items participants are asked to bring.
   (b) Improving the Urban Tree Canopy Subcommittee: The sub group met on Tuesday 9/7. On 9/22 there is a second tree planting of 11 trees at 330 Park. Planting will start at 1 PM into holes dug the night before. The Bloomfield Beattification Committee (BBC) is participating and planting 4 trees at town hall as well. One of these is a replacement for a diseased tree to be removed. The BBC has plans for an arboretum at town hall. A guided walk on Sept. 25th from town center to the gardens at Filley Park and a tree ID walk on Nov. 20th at Seabury are planned. Sign-ups will be done through Leisure Services. Claudia requests all event schedules be forwarded to her for the Green News.
   (c) Resolution for Library Building Committee: see attached. The building committee is encouraged to preserve trees, use bird-safe glass, and build in solar energy. The resolution is formally approved tonight and will be sent to town council.
   (d) Electric School Buses – VW grant: DATCO was planning to put several applications in for CT communities, one of them being Bloomfield and planned to apply for 6 buses in each application. However, just today, DATCO reported that Bloomfield would not be eligible as all
but one of its 2009 buses were decommissioned (by them) this summer. As well, they felt Bloomfield’s application was the least strong of its 4 choices as it has only a relatively small percentage of environmental justice area in town. That ends our chances of obtaining an electric school bus through the VW grant. Mr. Dickinson suggested the town endorse the electrification of US Postal vehicles. David Hager suggested that ALL the town fleets need evaluation and electrification.

(e) Recycling/Composting/Solid Waste Management: A resident inquired about Wintonbury Hills Golf Course’s recycling program after attending an event there; she noticed recyclable bottles and cans being put in the trash. CEEC inquired about the Golf Course’s trash & recycling contract and practices. Ciaran Carr reported that they manage the trash contract separately from the town and use CWPM for their collections, with separate trash and cardboard picks up each week. On the golf side they do try and separate recyclables from trash and have a individual pick up every day. He indicated they have to try and do a better job during events.

(f) Climate Emergency Resolution: The next step is proceeding with an RFQ for the $10,000 that has been allocated for this fiscal year to form a plan to eliminate carbon emissions by 2030. CEEC’s input on the scope of services for the RFQ would be helpful. Mr. Giner’s department, with the help of Nancy Haynes, purchasing agent for the town, will draft the RFQ. Ellen Castaldini has been in touch with Roger Kuhns who has details of scoping that would be helpful. Stephanie Bahramian also has some material from vendors that could be useful in developing content for an RFQ.

(d) Environmental Justice and Community Resilience (Rockwell basketball courts; tournament, community clean-up): Meredith Johnson at Doll’s House Foundation is interested in working with the CEEC on this.

6. New Business:

(a) Discussion of Bicycle Friendly Community Program: A prior suggestion had been for Steve Mitchell to do a presentation to the town council about the program. Bloomfield has a bike group which is participating in trail rides with Simsbury, but does not have an official bike-ped committee.

7. Announcements/Updates/Upcoming Events from the Committee:

(a) Zellene presented data from an annual bird and butterfly count which took place on June 23-24 with 9 observers. 1,367 birds were identified with 67 species represented. Only 2 bobolinks were seen at Auer Farm. Poison Ivy is overtaking the grasses there. Yearly counts, indicating long-term trends, show a decrease. The butterfly counts demonstrated numerous Pearl Crescents.

8. Public Comments: none

9. Adjourn at 6:04 PM.

10. Next meeting date: October 14, 2021
WHEREAS, the Town of Bloomfield adopted a Climate Emergency Resolution to limit greenhouse gas emissions by 2030; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Bloomfield has demonstrated its commitment to renewable energy and its recognition of the long-term social and fiscal benefits of solar energy; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Bloomfield has demonstrated its commitment to Sustainable CT by inclusion of environmental planning in its projects; and

WHEREAS, the CEEC believes that it is imperative that all new and/or renovated buildings in Bloomfield are evaluated for inclusion of solar energy; and

WHEREAS, the CEEC recognizes that 1 billion birds are killed each year by striking windows; and

WHEREAS, bird-safe glass is available and now being incorporated into buildings to dramatically reduce bird strikes; and

WHEREAS, the CEEC recognizes that mature trees provide thermal energy benefits; and

WHEREAS, the CEEC is a co-sponsor of the TREES FOR BLOOMFIELD Initiative, which has as one of its objectives the preservation, maintenance, and replenishment of Bloomfield’s tree canopy; and

WHEREAS, the CEEC recognizes that trees enhance the beauty of the built environment; and

WHEREAS, the Town Center has lost many mature trees along the northern end of Bloomfield Avenue, on the Town Green and along the southern end of Tunxis Avenue due to old age, disease, or outright removal for development; and

WHEREAS, the CEEC recognizes the importance of the natural environment for public physical and mental health; and

WHEREAS, the CEEC recognizes the opportunity to use the out-of-doors for library programming;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE CEEC URGES THE BLOOMFIELD LIBRARY BUILDING COMMITTEE TO:

1. Incorporate solar energy into the designs for the new Prosser Library and for the renovated McMahon Wintonbury Library. This may include roof-top, carport, and/or ground mounted solar arrays.

2. Use bird-safe glass in the designs for both the new Prosser Library and the renovated McMahon Wintonbury Library.

3. Retain the two large Oak Trees in front of Prosser Library on Tunxis Avenue, since the presence of these mature trees provides environmental benefit and enhances the beauty of the built environment.

4. Plant new trees at McMahon Wintonbury Library to replace the sum total caliper of trees removed by building an addition in the renovation process.

5. Incorporate physical and programming linkages between both Library Branches and nearby Town Public Parks. Specifically, connect Prosser Library to Filley Park, and Wintonbury McMahon Library to Bill Lee Fields.

This Resolution was approved by the Conservation Energy and Environment Committee on the 9th day of September 2021.