

SLCP #24 Meeting Recap

July 7th, 2022

Attendance:

Hi All,

Thank you so much for coming to today's meetup! So many great updates and ideas were shared, like giving out reusable silicone food storage bags as prizes to thinking about plastic free library card options.

Notes from Introductions:

Margaret (Charlotte, VT) noted that they were participating in Plastic Free July at her library and using the [calendar of activities](#) provided when you sign up for the challenge.

Sara (Lindenhurst, NY) noted the success of their [NexTrex plastic film recycling program](#). They have held plastic-free events in the past, but that has been a challenge this past year while they are under construction.

Carol (Curtis Memorial, ME) starting the certification process, has a sustainability team set up. Just eliminated most of their plastic book covers.

Tim (Sayville, NY) notes that they are still in the beginning stages of their certification and are helped by their building's solar and geothermal heating systems.

Plastic Free Ideas:

Debbie (Comsewogue Library, NY) Noted that cutlery has a habit of disappearing from the staff room and needs to be replenished occasionally.

Kristen (Sachem Library, NY) The library has a monthly wellness challenge and this month's theme is Plastic Free July. Staff members log how many days they are able to avoid using single use plastic items and are entered into a raffle for prizes using a Google Form. They have been integrating sustainability themes into their monthly challenges.

Annemarie (SLI) Noted that finding ways to work sustainability into the tasks that we already do is a great way to make the certification process manageable.

Ken (Copaigue, NY) Interested in the Staff Wellness Challenges at Sachem

Kristen (Sachem, NY) Monthly staff wellness challenges started a year ago as a mental health initiative. It is voluntary for staff to participate, she emphasized that the focus is on grace, not

perfection (which is great to keep in mind, especially when starting something new). Each month has a different theme. Prizes are raffled each month with a budget of about \$50. Sometimes there is one big prize, sometimes a few smaller prizes are raffled off. For this month's plastic free theme, they are raffling off silicone snack bags and there will be a few winners.

Kristen shared the form that the staff uses to record their participation:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScoSjgv3f6BDi38bogIJ3CnYeN2bi15kMmo9eXe1uH6Xk49zQ/viewform>

And their past themes and prizes:

Safety- electric tire inflator

Creativity- Michaels gift card

Sustainability- herb garden starter kit

Simplify- "A Simplified Life" By Emily Ley

Fitness- yoga mats

Self Care- facial steamer

Sleep- silk sleep masks

Walking- Cozy socks

Hydrating- water bottle

Cooking (cooking your own food/less eating out)- green/healthy skillet

Reading- amazon gift card

(Contact sliadmin@suffolknet.org for Kristen's contact information if you have any more questions)

Question about plastic free library cards:

Lisa (Lindenhurst Memorial Library, NY) Mentioned seeing bamboo cards. Her library offers digital library cards that can be scanned. Patrons may request a paper card. She emphasized questioning practices and policies to see where things might need to evolve.

Debbie (Comsewogue Library, NY) Consumer expectation has shifted to much more comfort with digital cards and scanning.

Tim (Sayville, NY) The propagation station set up several months ago is going well. There are more people taking cuttings than leaving them. They have partnered with their local garden club to keep plants available and have a variety of different kinds of plants. Picture from Sayville Library's Instagram feed:



Question about EV Charging Stations

Debbie (Comsewogue Public Library, NY) Interested in partnering with her county government. There have been informational webinars.

Lisa (Lindenhurst, NY) Installed two chargers when they renovated the parking lot. They received [grant money](#) from their State Senator and set up [Charge Point](#) Charging Stations. First two hours are free, \$3/hour after. With the Charge Point account system, they may be able to partner with Suffolk County by creating a group account and tallying the charge cost on a monthly basis.

Debbie (Comsewogue Public Library, NY) Charging stations could be another evolving consumer expectation and libraries can be in the lead on this.