

Transfer Station and Recycling Committee Meeting Minutes

Town Hall – Chenery Room

April 11, 2016

PRESENT: Chairman Megan Sullivan, Barbara Meyer, Steve Catanese, Nancy Irwin, Rachel Brown, Ken Feeney, Bobby Kennedy Jr. and Michael Sullivan. Also in attendance were Mary Pat McSharry and Melanie Vagnini, Swap volunteers.

Megan Sullivan called the meeting to order at 10 a.m.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to accept the March meeting minutes

The Committee would like to thank Tony Centore for many years of service to our committee.

Donation Bins – The Epilepsy Foundation New England Donation Center will place a 20x8 bin and a 4x4x6 container at the TS for public donations and 2 4x4x6 bins for Swap volunteer use. Bobby will coordinate the delivery of these.

It was noted that the Bay State Textile bins at the schools generate \$5,000 for the schools, and the Bay State Textile bin at the TS generated another \$1000 for the schools.

Organics Collection – Program will be launching May 7, 2016. During Medfield Green Month, from 9am – 1pm each Saturday in May Rachel will be at the TS so residents can ask questions and purchase starter kits.

Rachel has worked with the Town Meeting Moderator, Scott McDermott, to arrange to be at the Town Meeting on April 25, 2016 informing residents of the organics collection at the transfer station. All Committee members are encouraged to come and help at the table outside the meeting. In addition, there will be a scrolling presentation on before TM starts. EOMS will forward a contract for their service and Mike Sullivan and Ken Feeney can work through those details.

Rachel is looking for a sponsor for between \$500 and \$2500 for the organics program, but she has not received any takers. Without a sponsor, the fee will be \$25 for the starter kits. This will include a 5 gallon pail with twist tight lid, a kitchen scrap bucket and 3 rolls of bio bags. Without a sponsor, residents would pay the full cost with an offset to reimburse to the Solid Waste budget. Plan is to order a pallet of pails (120), 500 kitchen scrap containers and 500 rolls of biobags to start.

Ken voiced that he wants biobags available to all, so that there is not misuse of plastic bags in the organics composting. The initial price of biobags will be 6¢ a bag (roll of 25 @ \$1.68), plus shipping, but it will be 10¢ a bag going forward, plus shipping. If the town were to provide the bags it could cost up to \$12,000 annually so we will continue to think about this and start with the kits.

Rachel, Megan, Mike and Ken will get together and work through some logistical details over the next week or so.

Mattress Recycling - We are ready with a pad to accept the trailer for mattress and box-spring recycling. Bobby wants to be sure there is adequate signage, which the vendor said they would provide. Mattress recycling will be available to residents at no charge until June 2017 when the grant ends. The container belongs to the vendor. We discussed whether we should charge for mattress collection. While there was support for this, without the proper "infrastructure" and collection methods we decided to continue without a charge. Options for collecting funds in the future include an honor box, a solar powered kiosk and a paid slip from the DPW office. There was also a suggestion that residents be granted a pass to transport a mattress that is too large for their own vehicle.

Grant Planning for FY 17 – Nancy Irwin and Megan Sullivan listened in on a webinar about the grant process for FY 17. There was a brief discussion of the dividend points that would be available for various recycling/reuse initiatives that Medfield has pursued. Filing for grants for FY 17 ends June 15th.

Recycling Partnership- Rachel reported on the Recycling Partnership presentation she went to at the MassRecycle R3 conference. The Recycling Partnership is working with the state on an initiative. They are working in Lowell, West Springfield, and Needham and when complete will release information to all Mass. Municipalities. The information will include results of trash audits and marketing messages that communities can use to develop publicity like posters.

Swap Area – Swap has reached out to the Patch to advertise for volunteers for the Swap Area. Paving will commence when weather permits. Discussed delaying the opening until Rhino tents are delivered and installed in May but we agreed to go forward with the tent that MEMO has donated (a 20x40 wedding tent) for use in the Swap Area. If paving is completed, the Swap can open as planned on May 4. Thank you MEMO.

Medfield Green Month - Every Saturday in May 2016, there will be special collections. Information is on the Town website.

Household Hazardous Day is scheduled for April 16, 2016 at the Town Garage.

Communication/Newsletter – Megan noted that she would like to see some more formal communication to the community about trash and recycling issues. This might be a newsletter or even a presentation/meeting night.

Next meeting will be scheduled for May 9, 2016 at 10:00 am.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:15 AM.