

*Transfer Station and Recycling Committee Meeting Minutes*

Town Hall – Chenery Room

March 18, 2019

PRESENT: Chairman Megan Sullivan, Barbara Meyer, Andrea Costello, Cheryl Dunlea...not a quorum

Also present: Maurice Goulet, Robert Kennedy Jr., Bob Ingram

Megan Sullivan called the meeting to order at 9:07 AM.

The minutes were approved and Cheryl Dunlea's name will be forwarded to the Selectman for appointment to our committee.

Revolving Fund

There is about \$6000 in the Revolving Fund.

Plastic Reduction Initiative

Progress continues to be made. Mark Cerel helped draft the article for the Town Warrant. Sharon Tatro is our representative for the Warrant Committee, which is meeting 3/19 to determine whether they will vote to recommend passage or not. The Selectmen voted to support the initiative jointly with TSARC. The MPRI group has been industriously scheduling and leading community forums. They have met with students at the high school. There are brochures for forums at the end of March, beginning of April and other opportunities. Megan and Jeanette Ruyle spoke at the Lion's Club meeting. MPRI is seeking permission for a power point presentation at Town Meeting. There are plans for a table display at Town Meeting, Shaw's, and the Library.

Large chain stores order bags by the week, but smaller, local stores order ahead and have an inventory of plastic bags. Big Y has its own corporate initiative to go plastic-bag free. All merchants in town have been contacted to inform them about the proposed article.

Organics

Andy will circulate a draft informational card for the organics program to all of TSARC. She will be taking comments or revisions until about April 1.

Megan will check in with Hidden Acres and our hauler, EOMS, to see about acceptability or not of compostable serviceware like cups, plates, utensils as we finalize the informational card.

Maurice will think about how we can process backyard compost requests between the special days during Medfield Green Months.

There are 225 counter-top baskets stored at the TS (additional at DPW in TH). Megan is suggesting that she give 100 to some other group. No objections were voiced (Medfield only

paid 5¢ each [\$5 for 100]; they are somewhat fragile and taking space in a roll-off at the Transfer Station).

There are 24 green transfer pails and 10-15 Back-yard Composters at the TS. It would be great to run composting workshops at the library and high school if someone would like to coordinate.

### Public Space Recycling

The public space recycling bins have not yet been ordered but Maurice expects that they will be ordered shortly.

### Mattress Recycling Program

The Revolving Fund will cover half the mattress expense removal through April now that the grant has concluded. Slightly complicating a pay per mattress program is that any revenues from mattress disposal charges would go into the town's General Fund and can't be used to directly offset the expense so there needs to be a budget for the mattress expense.

When the online sticker registration is fully operating, the plan is to add a component to charge for mattresses. We have been paying about \$1400/month for about 55 mattresses, split \$700 each to DPW and Revolving Fund. We are considering a charge of \$25 per piece (mattress or box spring).

For our next meeting Megan will check into other mattress vendors, one in Warwick and one in Milford who were mentioned at a recent meeting. We will compare prices with UTEC as we evaluate this program.

Maurice & Bobby will work on logistics and whether/how it could work accepting mattresses with payments this spring. Would the door to the trailer have to be locked? How could this work?

Maurice will also explore payment options. Would the kiosk payment machine work? Would an ipad (or similar) be able to take payments if they weren't made online? How can we operate this revenue neutral program for the town within budget processes etc.

### Planning for New TS Stickers

Sticker purchasing should be available online by May 1, so materials to be inserted in the mailing of stickers back to residents. New stickers for a 2 year period have been ordered and received. Our committee recommended \$50/yr (\$100/ 2 years), but we are not sure whether Kris has taken that request to the Selectmen (Reminder: the Board of Selectmen sets Town fees, with input from the Warrant Committee). Maurice prefers a single-year charge and changing times for police details to keep residents on their toes. "Leniency" for a single-year sticker would be 1-2 months.

A part-time employee at the proposed gate (Wed, Fri, Sat) would not need to be paid benefits. That plan is far in the future.

### Competitive Bidding

Contract negotiations are now with B.J. Harvey (E.L.'s son). We are continuing without a contract and without increasing the fee from about \$60/Ton (consider--Boston's only bid was from Casella. While undisclosed it is estimated to be around \$120/T; transfer stations generally have cleaner mixed recyclables than curbside collections).

### Cost Reduction Alternatives

Maurice is working with Mitch Kessler of Kessler Consulting to help with the bid process and TS alternatives, including not having single stream. At this time the markets are low for most materials.

### Operational and Financial Information

Summer hours are to include Fridays 7:30-4:00, May 1-October 1.

### Budget

The budget is not set for next year. The Warrant Committee is trying hard to present a budget that does not include an override. Individual departments, including DPW, are being asked to find budget cuts.

### PR/Communications Plan

We had anticipated a presentation from Constant Contact, but our March 4 meeting was postponed due to a snow storm. We are expecting to proceed with a one-year contract with Constant Contact so the DPW can directly reach TS Sticker holders.

### Logo

Andy presented a TSARC logo and it was well-received. She will bring it back with some minor changes at our next meeting.

### Schools

Cheryl reported that there is currently no composting at the schools. Recycling efforts in the schools vary. Lawrence Waste collects trash and recycling from the schools. There are recycling containers in the cafeterias, but it is not certain that items are being recycled. Amy Colleran is the new Medfield Facilities Director (just starting in March). Sue Cowell teaches Wellness at the HS and is interested in having kids composting. Cheryl will make contact with the new Facilities Director and continue to learn about this topic and inform our committee.

### Committee Tasks Needing Committee Member Volunteers to Coordinate/Work on:

There are a variety of tasks and ideas that our committee could work on. We just need help to do them. Our March list:

- Website Recommendations---Town has a website—needs site map for
- Survey Topics/Questions on Survey Monkey to Accompany New TS Stickers  
Note: decided not to do a survey this cycle. Previous surveys gave us information that people are willing to pay for mattress disposal, and that people wanted exploration of additional hours for the Transfer Station
- Organics Brochure (In Progress – Cheryl and Andy)
- Organics Program TLC (see above...while it is moving along, we could use a champion!
- Monthly Financials Report (Megan has been doing but would happily share!)
- Update TS Brochure—Recycling Guidelines, etc. (In process, DPW)
- Minutes (Barb has been doing)
- Social Media/Facebook Updates—smart weekly recycling tips etc. (Megan/Rick)
- Publicity—ongoing outreach, events, etc. Possibly Constant Contact. \_\_\_\_\_
- Medfield Green Month—run it and coordinate all parts (vendors, publicity...) ( Bob)
- Electronics Recycling Information...flyer where dispose of items....alternatives (e.g., Best Buy)  
(Bobby to contact ElectronixRedux for Sat, May 1, 9:00-1:00) \_\_\_\_\_
- SWAP Nancy & Mary Pat McSharry
- Constant Contact (Annette)
- Logo—(Andy & Annette)
- Transfer Station Sign—develop suggested copy for the sign \_\_\_\_\_

### Professional Development Opportunities & Report

- Textile Webinar—Megan noted that there are ready-to-go PR materials on textile recycling and she forwarded them to Medfield TV.
- SWANApalooza (“Solid Waste Association of North America)--Nancy attended 3 days and will report next meeting.
- Mass Recycle Conference Mon., March 25 in Framingham. DPW budget will send Annette, Nancy, and Bob.

Next Meeting was scheduled for Monday, April 8, 2019 at 9:00.

Meeting adjourned at 10:40.