

TSARC April 12th 2021

Committee Member	Present?
Jacqueline Alford	√
Chris Carlin	√
Andrea “Andy” Costello	√
Cheryl Dunlea	√ Co-chair
Nancy Irwin	√ Co-chair
Barbara Meyer	√
Kimberly Schubert	X
Megan Sullivan	√
Annette Wells	X
Maurice Goulet, DPW Director, Ex Officio	X
Robert Kennedy, Ex Officio	X
Kristine Trierweiler, Ex Officio	X

Also present: Nathan Bazinet, Nick Milano

Meeting opened remotely through Zoom at 9:03 and being recorded

1. Reviewed and approved March minutes with 6 changes, have quorum

2. Introductions

- **Next meeting:** Nancy and Barbara chair; June - Barbara and Annette
- **Follow-up note taker:** Cheryl
- **Google Drive:** Andy will manage updates
- Dates to remember will be sent to committee members after meetings by Cheryl
- For next month, will revise Committee Tasks on the Google Drive and decide on one member to appoint to contact Donna for any information needed

3. TS Committee Initiatives

- A) **Donation Bins and Trailer at Transfer Station:** Megan sent a proposal to CMRK for servicing a Medfield-provided trailer and 5 bins (CMRK’s two current bins + 3 additional) and is waiting to hear back. The 3 additional bins would be 1 out of the 3 Epilepsy foundation bins, 1 out of the 2 Goodwill bins and the Helpsy bin. Working with CMRK would be to have a trailer available for the SWAP and available full time for residents’ household goods. Nancy spoke with the Epilepsy

Foundation and they would be willing to empty the trailer once a week. Megan will continue discussion with CMRK and will contact the Epilepsy Foundation for more information if working with CMRK does not happen or possibly for servicing the trailer in the interim before CMRK's servicing begins.

B) **Styrofoam:** A subcommittee will form to work on planning for future collections such as a possible collection in the fall and will share a proposal at next month's meeting.

C) **SWAP & Curb Alerts/SWAP Tent cable update:**

- Curb alerts resumed Saturday, April 10th and will continue until snow. Signs have been added to 4 spots in town using sandwich boards borrowed from the Lions Club. The signs have been redone multiple times due to water damage to the poster board. Options for creating permanent signs will be explored and proposals will be discussed further at next month's meeting.
- One of the SWAP tents was discovered to have a mangled cable that prevented it from opening. The cable was fixed by Roger during a monthly collection at the SWAP.
- Maurice and Kristine discussed with Nancy whether the SWAP should open. It was decided that it should not open for the spring and summer. Will reevaluate during the summer whether it should open for September and October. Curb alerts, monthly collections and suggestions to contact Vietnam Vets, Big Brother Big Sister, New Life, and Savers for donating items will continue in the meantime. When the SWAP does open, furniture and kids' toys will likely not be included.

D) **Report on Schools:**

- Jackie and Cheryl sent a letter to the school committee on March 16th about including dishwashers in the schools. Will continue conversation with them and send the letter to the Dale Street School building committee as well.
- Working on drafting monthly themes and resources to give to high school students for working on projects in collaboration with town groups during the next school year

E) **Presentations:**

- Talking Trash & Recycling: Date set for April 15th with 25 people signed up at the time of the meeting. Planning to spread word about the recording of the webinar afterwards
- Mass Recycle Conference April 15th: Chris will attend and report next month.

F) **Monthly Collections:**

- Bay State Textiles: Each of the collections since they started in October 2020 have been highly used by residents and another collection happened April 17th.
- Salvation Army Household Goods Collection: The two trucks were filled before 2:00 and 5 van loads worth of items were received between 2:00 and 4:00 that Nancy and Annette donated to Vietnam Vets. Salvation Army would be willing to do another collection and one may happen in early May

G) **Green Months:**

- Decided not to hold a green month in May since several collection options such as for books, Styrofoam and electronics would not be possible at this time. An electronics collection may happen in the summer or fall and collections with Bay State and Salvation Army will continue.

4. Transfer Station Operations

A) **TS Stickers (2021-2022):** 27 total for March with 25 replacements - 18 first stickers, 8 second stickers and 1 fourth sticker. New stickers required starting July 1st. A letter was sent to the Board of Selectmen with the recommendation to increase the sticker price next year not to fall behind with the changing costs of operations. The price increase was approved and stickers will

become \$110 for the first sticker and \$30 for additional stickers. Noted that some other towns have issued a separate sticker cost for seniors.

- B) **Updates for Brochure/Handout for TS:** Cheryl will check with Donna before next month's meeting on the status of the updates to the website .
- C) **Pay as you Throw:** Andy sent a letter to the DPW in Duxbury to continue having conversations like the conversations held with Needham and Norfolk. Kathi Mirza (DEP) had recommended them as towns of similar size to Medfield. Gathering information about how towns have managed education and funding during a transition to PAYT. Hiring additional staff at the Medfield TS would be needed to help with receiving payments for items not added to PAYT bags that before would have gone to the tipping floor. PAYT would also require a reconfiguration of the TS to have effective sorting. Will plan to talk with the Board of Selectmen about the hope to integrate PAYT into the long-term plan for the TS.
- D) **Food composting signs:** New laminated info sheets were added to the bins. A large garbage bag and a lamp were found in the compost bins and removed.
- E) **Mattress Collection:** In the process of considering logistics and hope to resume someday
- F) **Usage Report tons of recycling and trash:** Information will be emailed before the May 10th
- G) **Funds:** Revolving fund changed from \$2,433 to \$1,983 after spending \$450 for the Styrofoam collection. The town paid for the other half of the approximately \$1,000 Styrofoam collection expense. At the time of the meeting had received \$175 out of the \$412 owed from Bay State with the rest of the money on its way. Will also receive more money this year from the various textile bins and future collections. Recycling Dividends remains at \$25,929

5. Topics for Constant Contact Newsletter for April:

- Curb alerts; SWAP not opening; suggesting donations to Vietnam Vets, Big Brother Big Sister, New Life and Savers as SWAP alternatives; no Styrofoam collection spring or summer-- suggesting Conigliaro and Insulation Technologies for recycling; no electronics collection in the spring --suggesting Best Buy for recycling; Medfield Annual Springtime Town-wide Food Drive; November 13th Household Hazardous Waste collection date to remember; and transfer station hours

7. Reports/Webinars

- Extended producer responsibility webinar: Attended by Barbara, the extended producer responsibility will eventually become mandatory in Europe but Europe is having trouble coordinating countries. The U.S. is behind in developing the system and Canada is slightly further along in process than the U.S. Discussion included how there needs to be stronger development of the market for using reuse material as the raw material of products. Discussed as well how only 15% of plastic bottles are recycled and only buy back items have led high rates of recycling.
- Massachusetts Reuse & Reduce Working Group meeting: Attended by Megan, discussion included what to work on next such as support for reuse programs and for restaurants using alternatives to disposable items for takeout. More discussions and programs likely to come.
- Sustainable Medfield - Met on March 10th with Jackie as the TSARC liaison and the next meeting will be May 26th at 2:00. Information will be shared soon on how TSARC can add content to the Sustainable Medfield website.

8. Additional Topics

- Discussed how trash and recycling bins were overflowing at a recent event held by the pond in the center of town. For next month's meeting Jackie will research what steps could be taken to help improve the situation for the future.
- Earth Day: Students from the high school environmental club formed a subgroup for participating in the town-wide clean ups to be held on April 24th and 25th.

9. Next TSARC meeting set for Monday, May 10th at 9:00am via Zoom. Adjourned 10:42.