

TSARC May 10th 2021

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

Also present: Nick Milano, Donna Knott

Meeting opened remotely through Zoom at 9:12 and being recorded

1. Introductions

- **Next meeting:** Barbara and Annette chair; July - Annette and Jackie; August - Jackie and Chris; September - Chris and Andy; October - Andy and Cheryl; November - Cheryl and Nancy
- **Follow-up note taker:** Cheryl

2. Reviewed and approved April minutes without changes, have quorum

3. TS Committee Initiatives

- Donation Bins and Trailer at Transfer Station:** The proposal for CMRK to service 5 bins and a Medfield provided trailer has been accepted. Moving the trailer and swapping the bins will begin after a meeting between the transfer station, TSARC and CMRK. Will spread word once the move has occurred that the trailer will be a location for residents to drop off household goods and will organize previous SWAP volunteers for decluttering
- SWAP & Curb Alerts:** Will reevaluate later in the summer whether the SWAP should open for September and October. For curb alerts, around 6-10 people have been posting since restarting them April 10th. Still is early in the season and posting may grow over time to be closer to last year's around 20-30 people. Posting to Medfield Area Free Stuff or setting out items without posting has also been occurring. The decision about purchasing 8 signs for curb alerts will continue to be researched
- Report on Schools:** Asked for student volunteers to help with the May 15th poster session for the warrant articles. Discussion with teachers about environmental projects for the students will be pursued for mid-August once the busyness of the school year may have settled. Will continue to finalize the monthly topics during a subcommittee meeting. An earth day student clean-up wasn't possible but Maurice and Bobby have mentioned that they would be able to pick up trash collected during any future clean ups organized

- D. Presentations - Talking Trash and Recycling:** Audience of around 20 people was engaged and consisted of some new faces. Hope to repeat the program and to share a link to a recording of the presentation if possible

Mass Recycle Conference April 15: A wide variety of topics were discussed centered on where materials go and how we can do better. Commercial food waste ban will start in October for quantities greater than 1 ton and anaerobic digestion is helping in some areas. **Presentation from Republic Service** on their process with construction waste - rail service is used for 135,000 tons of material and reduces the use of trailers and trucks. Asphalt Brick and Concrete (ABCs), metals and wood are separated out. Gypsum materials are removed since not much can be done with them. Wood is shipped to Canada and returned as particle board. **Speaker from Green Mattress Recycling in Milford** - Around 50,000 mattresses enter landfills/day (around 28 Empire State Buildings). The facility has a goal of recycling 300,000 mattresses/year and can chip up the wood and remove the foam and metal of a mattress within 2 minutes. They accept drop offs and do town pickups. **Mattress and Paint Extended Producer Responsibility** - Dedicated recycling programs for these items exist in most New England states but not Massachusetts. Legislation in development was discussed. 48 million gallons of paint were collected in a paint care program mention by a speaker from the paint industry

- E. Recycling Quick Tips:** Hope to have recycling tips and the Recycle Smart MA Recyclopeda in the Hometown Weekly and the Patch each week. Donna Knott will contact them and create a draft list of tips using suggestions from committee members and resources such as MassRecycle's newsletter. Tips will also be posted to Facebook and ones from the past month will be included in the TSARC newsletter

F. Monthly Collections

Bay State Textiles: 4,500 pounds of textiles were received during the April 17th collection despite the weather, leading to \$225 received at \$0.05/pound. Next collection happened May 22nd and was to be advertise through the Patch, newspapers and the newsletter

Salvation Army Household Goods Collection: Nancy is contacting them weekly to determine when another collection in May or June would be possible. Discussed whether a separate household goods collection should occur once the trailer with CMRK has been set up. Might hold one more collection and then reassess whether to hold future ones

- G. Styrofoam:** A survey will be sent to help assess whether to hold a collection in the fall. It will be sent first to the committee as a test and then may be sent to the town in August
- H. Interfacing sign ups and Megan's idea sharing on various topics:** Will be working on redistributing information to members based on member responsibilities listed on Google Drive

4. Transfer Station Operations

- A. TS Stickers (2021-2022) - counts and fees:** 12 total for April and 13 replacements - 7 first stickers and 5 second stickers
- B. Updates for Brochure Handouts for TS:** The updated Rules and Regulations are online and Andy will check whether the food waste brochure is online as well
- C. Pay as You Throw:** Andy spoke with Duxbury about their program and will be visiting them in June. Their PAYT program has been running well for 15 years and pays for itself without generating revenue. Conversations with towns similar to Medfield have shown no problems with running the program and that education is what takes the most energy

- D. **Food Composting Signs:** Plastic bags have been found in the food waste bins multiple times. Discussed adding signage to the bins to clarify that only compostable bags should be used and will explore options for the signs
- E. **Mattress Collection:** In the process of considering logistics and hope to someday resume
- F. **Usage Report tons of recycling and trash:** Information will be emailed before the June 14th meeting
- G. **Recycling Dividends and Revolving Funds:** Recycling dividends is at nearly \$32,000 after receiving \$6,000 in April and the revolving fund is around \$2,400. Revenue received for the revolving fund includes \$26.57 refunded from composter May 2020. A large amount of additional money will be added soon to the revolving fund from CMRK servicing more bins and will need to consider how to spend it. Discussed potentially spending some of it on a kiosk at the TS for items such as mattresses that would eventually be used for PAYT. Would be difficult to enforce its use but some towns have had success with residents such as senior citizens helping provide oversight

5. Topics for Constant Contact Newsletter for May

- May 22nd Textile Collection; curb alerts; alternatives to curb alert on Facebook (Medfield Area Free Stuff, Norfolk County Give and Take and No Buy - Millis & Neighbors); only biodegradable bags are acceptable in the food waste bins and backyard composters and biodegradable bags are available at Wills; information on how to purchase new transfer station stickers online before June 30th; transfer station hours

6. Reports

- Sustainable Medfield: Looking for more people to create profiles on the Sustainable Medfield website (<https://community.massenergize.org/MedfieldMA>) and for feedback about the site. The site allows for residents to have one place to learn about changes they can make to improve the environment and the profiles allow for keeping track of greenhouse gas emissions avoided in town from residents completing the listed actions
- MEA: Warrant articles on establishing a net zero climate goal and plan and on adopting community choice aggregation were to be voted on at the May 17th town meeting and both articles passed

7. Additional Topics

- A. Signing up for Committee Tasks on Google Drive will be completed next month once the materials Megan will be redistributing have been prepared
- B. Andy to Contact Donna for all updates: Revolving Fund; Recycling Dividends; Tonnage; Sticker counts; new email addresses from new TS stickers >> to Annette for Constant Contact list
- C. Jackie discussed the management of trash at outdoor food and drink events with Maurice and Pete Peterson. Will be contacting the town administrator to see if a more rigid trash and recycling mandate can be established for vendors approved by the Selectmen so that an area where an event is held will be cleaned up at the event's conclusion

8. Next TSARC meeting set for Monday, June 14th at 9:00am via Zoom. Adjourned 10:42