

TSARC June 14th 2021

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

Also present: Nick Milano

Meeting opened remotely through Zoom at 9:04 and being recorded

1. Introductions

- **Next meeting:** Annette and Jackie chair - whether the meeting will be in person is undetermined. Discussed having the agenda printed out when in person meetings resume but having other materials available for review through Google Drive
- **Future Meetings:** 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 May minutes without changes, have quorum

3. TS Committee Initiatives

- Donation Bins & Trailer at TS / CMRK:** The vendors of the three bins to be removed were contacted. CMRK will be adding three bins and was working on a plan for signage. The mattress trailer was to be moved soon and the new set up for donations will be publicized afterwards. Drop offs to the trailer will start June 30th
- SWAP and Curb Alerts:** Will continue to consider whether to open the SWAP in September if opening is permitted and consider who may be able to volunteer. Curb alerts have been going strong. Posting continues to happen each week on the Medfield SWAP Shop Facebook page and participation through other Facebook pages continues as well
- School Plan:** Monthly topics for projects by the high school environmental group have been determined for September through next May. Topics center on what's happening in town and includes activities where students can be involved with what's happening. A meeting for feedback was planned with Kerry Lynch for June 17th to give time for teachers to make preparations before the school year begins. A revised monthly plan will be added afterwards to the TSARC Google Drive. Will try to contact the principals in the elementary and middle schools to establish a contact person in each school.

- D. **Renew Constant Contact:** Renewing would cost \$588 when the discount for paying for a year in advance is included. The cost is the same as previous years. Voted unanimously to renew it and Annette will contact Donna Cimeno about making the payment from the revolving fund
- E. **Recycling Quick Tips:** The first weekly tip appeared in the May 27th paper
- F. **Monthly Collections**
 - Bay State Textiles: The most recent collection was the lightest; 2,500 pounds rather than the 5,000 pounds received during the first collection. Possible reason may be the weather for that day. Decided to wait a bit longer before the next future collection; considering having them every 2 months.
 - Salvation Army Household Goods Collection: Nancy has not had success with setting up another collection with them
 - Big Brother Big Sister: Household goods collection happened June 26th at the SWAP
- G. **Megan's Folders:** A list of new owners of the folders was added to the Member Responsibility spreadsheet on Google Drive. Still need someone to hold onto the Medfield Green Month folder
- H. **Medfield Day Booth:** Received the annual notice from MEMO about having the booth in front of the Montrose School that the committee has used in past years. Discussed using the booth to raise awareness about RecycleSmartMA.org and using it to help prepare for PAYT someday beginning in town by having information about what items can be brought to the Transfer Station. Megan will contact Donna Cimeno about paying the \$75 for the booth from the revolving fund. Jackie, Andy and Cheryl will work on plans for Medfield Day
- I. **Vendor responsibility for trash after events:** Trash management at outdoor food and drink events has no longer been an issue after raising awareness about it with the owner running them. The bins at Meeting House Park and the park near the library have been overflowing despite regular emptying. Jackie will discuss the issue with the DPW and whether it could help to explore options for larger bins

4. Transfer Station Operations

- A. **TS Stickers (2021-2022) - Counts and Fees:**
 - 982 stickers were purchased by the end of May for the sticker renewal. Fewer stickers than by the end of May in previous years; around 2,000 stickers were sold by this time 2 years ago
 - Email addresses for Constant Contact from the purchases have been updated
 - A few social media posts have happened recently about not needing to worry about stickers being checked. Will discuss with the TS what can be done to address the issue
 - The total number of stickers has been decreasing while the TS tonnage data shows that trash and recycling have been slightly increasing, indicating a likely increase in the quantity of recycling and trash per person
 - 2015-2017 first stickers: 3,723
 - 2017-2019 first stickers: 3,606
 - 2019-2021 first stickers: 3,568
- B. **Updates for Brochure Handouts for TS:** The updated Rules and Regulations and the updated Food Waste Drop-Off brochure for the Transfer Station are both online. Will wait to print updated copies until Medfield Day. May include a link to the new versions in Constant Contact
- C. **Pay-As-You-Throw:** No new information, research ongoing
- D. **Mattress Collection & Plastic Bags:** Chris will discuss with the TS the future of the collections

- E. **Usage Report tons of recycling and trash:** Information has been updated in Google Drive. The year-to-date data through April shows that single stream recycling is 4% higher and trash is 2% higher than in 2020. Similarly, single stream recycling is 11% higher and trash is 10% higher than in 2019. Despite this increase, the year-to-date data through April shows that the percent recycled has remained the same this year as in 2020 (around 27% recycled)
- F. **Recycling Dividends and Revolving Funds:** Both sums have not changed since last month. Payments from the past four textile collections had not been received, an amount totaling \$762. One check was made out incorrectly. Have been in contact with Bay State Textiles about receiving the other three. \$762 received on June 25th.

5. Topics for Constant Contact Newsletter for June

- June 26th Household Goods Collection; information on how to purchase new transfer station stickers online before June 30th; previous weeks' published recycling tips on containers made of multiple materials, plastic bottle and jar lids, and wrapping paper; information on what batteries should be recycled and bringing them to the blue shed at the Transfer Station; curb alerts; need for SWAP volunteers for when it can safely open; transfer station hours
- All recycling tips will be included in the Newsletter that have previously been published, this is intended to be a recap.

6. Reports

- Seminar for SMRP Grant Applications (due July 14th): The number of points that Medfield qualifies for may be different this year due to changes in programs during COVID. Megan, Andy and Kim will discuss the grant application and decide whether to pursue grants for this year. Currently have over \$31,000 from past grants in the recycling dividends. Discussed ideas for spending the money and will set aside time at next month's meeting for further discussion. Will consider what purchases would help meet requirements when applying for any grants next year to help determine a timeline for spending. Possible options for the funds include making the payments for recycling mattresses, for weekly compost pick-up in the schools, for rain barrels, for a solar kiosk at the Transfer Station, for BigBelly Solar Compactors around town, for recycling alkaline batteries, for Styrofoam collections and mailing the RecycleSmart campaign postcards to all residents
- Lithium Ion Battery Webinars: Fires have happened in some places during transit and during dumping on the tipping floor from lithium ion batteries disposed of in the trash. The batteries have been collected for a long time but the elements extracted did not include the lithium itself until recently. The committee discussed how alkaline batteries are safe to trash but could be recycled with certain kits and companies. Will consider whether to do so during the budget discussion at next month's meeting
- Product Stewardship Institute Newsletter: In Maine, producers of plastic and other packaging will be responsible for it from creation to post-use. In Ontario, a formal plan for changes in their recycling program has been developed and the producers of materials will fund the costs of the transition - materials will be standardized and the program will be expanded to all communities and integrated into all multi-family residential housing

7. Additional Topics

- Signing up for Committee Tasks on Google Drive has been further completed and is ongoing
- Annual Fiscal Year Questionnaire for the Selectmen will be completed by Nancy
- Food Composting Bins: Signs were added to the inside covers of the bins to clarify that only compostable bags should be used. Since then there was a time when ice cream containers and Kleenex containers with compostable bags inside of them were found in the bins. May create a display of composting dos and don'ts and textile bin dos and don'ts for Medfield Day
- Styrofoam: A pilot survey was sent out and received 11 responses. Feedback for continuing the collection was 6/11 Yeses, 2/11 nos and 3 maybes. Various recommendations for the frequency but it would likely need to be done more than once a year based on the high volume received during the March 6th collection after a long hiatus. An alternative location to consider would be the town garage to help contain the Styrofoam, keep it clean and avoid creating traffic at the Transfer Station but would need to determine a way to dispose of rejected Styrofoam without it blowing away in transit. Finding enough volunteers would need to be figured out to run a collection. Feedback from the survey for volunteering was 4 yeses, 4 nos and 1 maybe. May conduct a broader survey to determine the quantity of volunteers possible if a collection were to happen. Have received the suggestion of creating video content for education to residents on Styrofoam recycling to ease the collection. Cheryl and Jackie will discuss options for a collection and report back in July

8. Next TSARC meeting set for Monday, July 12th at 9:00am via Zoom. Adjourned 10:54