

Final Meeting Minutes - Recycling and Solid Waste Committee (RSWC) - March 9, 2021  
Present (virtual Zoom): Meryl Mandell (Chair), Gary Bernhard (Recycling Coordinator), Gail Fleischaker, Marla Killough, Steve Rice, Peg Ross  
Not present: Ron Essig, Ezzell Floranina, Susan Quigley

- 1) Meeting called to order at 7:06 p.m.
- 2) Minutes of the October 27, 2020 meeting were approved.
- 3) The new recycling shed is in place. Keys to the lock are ready for this committee's members to pick up at the Town Hall from Grace Bannasch or Becky Torres. Boxes and bags need to be moved from Town Hall to the new shed in mid-April. A Doodle Poll will be sent out with potential dates for this activity.
- 4) A trash bag distribution Google Doc with dates for sign-up has been sent out to committee members. Members usually sign up for 3 dates. Please add your name to the list if you have not done so already. The Doc will be resent as a reminder.
- 5) A motion was made to discontinue Bulky Waste Day. It was seconded and voted unanimously in the affirmative. The Leverett Transfer Station (LTS) is available, so there is no need for Bulky Waste Day. If Leverett should ever discontinue their transfer station, holding a Shutesbury Bulky Waste Day would need to be revisited. Gary will procure stickers for the LTS for us to sell during trash bag distribution. Gary will also publicize the discontinuation of bulky waste day due to the LTS providing a higher level of service.
- 6) Gary reported on the idea of textile recovery. He attended a webinar on this topic which was also made available to this committee's members. The goal is to keep textiles out of the waste stream. Typically Baystate Textiles collects weekly, but we would not likely have enough to warrant weekly pick-up. Gary will be in touch with the person in charge of the LTS to explore whether Leverett might want to partner with Shutesbury on this undertaking. (Leverett does not have a recycling coordinator.) Baystate Textiles pays a rebate of \$100 for every ton collected. It was moved, seconded and passed unanimously that we pursue an arrangement with Leverett to recycle textiles. Gary will follow up on this.
- 7) Contracts/Grants updates- A grant for \$2800 was received from the Dept. of Environmental Protection last year and is likely to be awarded again. This money is used to purchase trash bags. Last year it also helped pay for a portion of the recycling shed.  
Discussion was held about the large compost bins which used to cost \$50 and now cost \$55. We agreed that 20 should be ordered (40 seeming to be too many) and that we will sell them for \$25 each. We also agreed to order 20 of the small compost buckets and charge \$5 each. Gary will create new sheets for tracking sales of bins and LTS stickers. We will continue to charge \$10 for LTS stickers for the town's fiscal year 2021 and \$20 for fiscal year 2022.

Meeting adjourned before 8:00 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Marla Killough