

Meeting Minutes – Recycling and Solid Waste Committee (RSWC) –

1/17/2024

Attendees (Zoom meeting) – Meryl Mandell (Chair), Gary Bernhard (Recycling Coordinator), Gail Fleischaker, Tim Logan, Mary Glavin

Absent - Steve Rice, Peg Ross, Barbara Bigelow; Marla Killough

1 - The meeting was called to order at 7:30pm.

2 - Minutes from the 4/18/2023 RSWC meeting were approved.

3 – Status of Prior Action items:

A – Gary will contact Triple T (a composting company), possibly others, re. setting up a school recycling program. Gary will get the specifics and send out an email with his findings and will arrange a meeting with the school principal. Gary did contact Amy Donovan but has not heard back yet. Amy is with the Franklin County Waste Management District and focuses on school programs. The primary question at this point is cost. **TABLED FOR NOW**

B - Gary will call NLR (hazardous waste company) to come get batteries. **DONE**

C – A complaint was received regarding the textile box placement on Lot O-32. The location results in auto headlamps to frequently shine into an adjacent residence. The Select Board has decided to move it to the Highway Department but will first consult with Tim Hunting (Highway Dept. Superintendent) as to the exact location. Gary will follow-up with the SB and will remind them that it must be visible from the road. **DONE (box relocated to Highway Department yard)**

4 – **New Business:** There are only 4 kitchen buckets left. Kitchen bins and recycle stickers were from a grant and we will not be ordering more.

5 - Future action items:

A – Gary will forward NLR and other contact information to Meryl.

B – Mary Glavin will make sure there are umbrellas in the shed – as the canopy is too awkward for one person to set up. Meryl will send a note to RSWC members to see who has spare umbrellas.

C – Meryl will double check bag stocks to see if we need to order more.

D – Meryl will send out bag distribution schedule by March 20.

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E – Meryl will check on compost bin and blue recycle bin inventory to see if more should be ordered.

F – Gary will ask Jan Ameen to contact Meryl about blue bin ordering.

G – Gary will make a list, in the form of a monthly calendar, of all recycle contact info and forward to Meryl. Mary volunteered to help Gary.

H – The group discussed options for finding a new Recycling Coordinator. Meryl will ask the Town Moderator, Paul Lyons, if she can make an announcement about the Recycling Coordinator position during the January special town meeting. She will also ask to post the position on the Town website. She asked all members to reach out and see if they knew anyone who might be interested in the position. All agreed to look.

I – Mary will research options for recycling Styrofoam.

J – Gary will talk to Susan Waite and Jan Ameen to see how other towns might be handling styrofoam recycling and email the resulting info to RSWC members.

K – Mary will create an info sheet regarding how to prepare various types of batteries, including LIPOs, for recycling before leaving batteries at Town Hall. She and others will drop off electrical tape in the Town Hall battery area with an instruction sheet for covering the battery terminals.

L – Gary will talk to Susan Waite about disposing of expired radioactive medicines and possibly prepare an article for the town newsletter on medical waste.

6 - Meeting adjourned at 8:36pm.

NOTE TAKER: Tim Logan