Shutesbury Recycling and Solid Waste Committee

Meeting Notes – 6/25/19

Attendees: Gary Bernhard (Recycling Coordinator), Peg Ross, Steve Rice, Gail Fleischaker, Meryl Mandell (Chair), Liz Lacy

Absent: Susan Quigley, Ron Essig, Marla Killough

1) Discussion regarding new member Ezzell Floranina. Meryl to ask Select Board to appoint her.
2) Minutes from previous meeting on 4/9/19 approved unanimously.
3) Trash Bags and Stickers – There was a no show at the trash bag pick up last Sat. so a day was added – July 13. There’s a new money box. Also there is an explosion of ants at shed – possibility of a new shed which Meryl will follow up on with various folks. Stickers are going strong – we are not leaving money from the sale of stickers at the shed.
4) MRF Bid Results – Still evaluating bids to use recyclables. No news according to Veronique. Gary will distribute when he gets them. Discussion on the uncertainty of future recycling due to global changes.
5) Bulky Waste Day June Summary – Police “over charge” - when they work beyond their 4 hours on a detail, they charge for 8 hours. Gold Circuit also charged more than expected. There has been a delay in paying invoices which apparently is a Town Administrator duty. Gail has not been able to complete her financial report. Summary so far, total $1,986 minus pizza etc. $1,887. Still outstanding invoices for roll offs and others. Discussion on whether to have BWD next year and how to reduce costs if it is held. Likely to break even - so consensus was to go forward next year. The participation was down to 74 households from over a hundred in the past years – probably due to stickers.
6) USA Recycle Performance and Regional Contracts – Gary said not much new. 2022 is next contract round.
7) Grant Status – We will get $500 from DEP grant. Gary said we get less funds because Shutesbury does not do town-wide compost pick up – seems like a more urban thing.
8) Celebrate Shutesbury – Meryl reserved booth. Steve or Gary have pop up canopy to loan the committee for the day. Meryl working on recycling “quiz.” There are items to sell. Sign up for a repair day – Gary will follow up. Subcommittee formed to continue work on this - Meryl, Ezzell, Gary, Peg, Steve.
9) Other: A) Gary attended reuse summit in Adams – at the Old Stone Mill. A reuse and zero waste facility. B) Gary and Liz visited school for meeting with principal Jackie Mendonsa regarding reducing waste. Apparently, the school has drastically reduced with many efforts. Awaiting numbers from cafeteria or custodian. C) Hazardous waste collection day in Amherst on Aug. 24th.

Adjourned: 8:25 pm.

Final minutes by Liz Lacy.