

## **RECYCLING COMMITTEE MEETING**

**January 17, 2023**

Meeting was called together at 5pm, by Chairperson.

Attendees were Rick Leary, Jon Howard, Gary Senecal, Lee Bartell.

November's minutes were approved. (We had no Dec. meeting)

The January Newsletter was posted: Subject aluminum cans. Deb Abbott posts on Facebook sites, Gwyneth Butera posts on Chapel of the Pines, DPW/Transfer Station has not kept current posting on their site despite outreach to Supervisor.

Climate Action Committee liaison report: Gary was unable to attend the meeting last week, but he stated that they're dedicating two meetings to set the priorities for the year, one of which is to get as close to as possible to Net 0 by 2030. Their four top issues selected. Composting was one of the top. Each of the four has a team working on it.

Board of Health liaison report: Rick gave an update that last BoH meeting a public apology was made for the unfounded speculation that occurred on this topic at November's meeting. One hauler and their attorney were present; as were John Roughley and Jacqui Beebe. John Roughly discussed current solid waste inspection procedures and licensed hauler practice to direct recycling trucks to material sorting facilities. Next BoH step was to meet DPW stakeholders at Transfer Station to inspect operations outlined above. That meeting took place first week of January. Agreement the current Transfer Station regulations do not adequately address recyclable contamination and should be revised. BoH to consider a workshop, including haulers, residents, and DPW staff to craft revised regulations. Members of the Recycling Committee welcome to participate!

In response to a question, Gary related that Kari from Mass DEP said that 30-35% of Eastham residents buy Transfer Station stickers. We discussed that it's a hard number to get, as some homes are full time, some part time, some rented in the summer, some rented weekly, some rented 3 months, and more combinations. So our % might actually much higher.

Swap Shop Guidelines and Orientation: Jon presented an initial draft. He noted that had little input from SS staff. Discussion also centered on a more formal style of writing, and breaking out guidelines from orientation so committee could vote on their adoption. Jon agreed to gather more input and formalize the style. He'll bring a revised version next month.

Gary, Gretchen, and Lee are planning a visit soon to the food waste facility at the Wellfleet Transfer Station. Mike, at the Wellfleet TS, wants to visit our TS soon.

30% of our trash is estimated to be food. That food needs to be composted. Kari

Parcell from Mass DEP is contemplating an outer cape composting program. We'd like to work with DEP and assess whether Eastham would be the site for such a program. Home composting was the mandate of our survey at Windmill Weekend. People want to compost at home. The Home Composting Education workgroup is meeting one week from today, to work on this issue (Gretchen, Rick, two folks from Climate Action Comm., and 2 citizens.)

Jacqui Beebe is interested in improving recycling capture in Eastham. She mentioned wanting to put recycling bins at all of the Town beaches. Chair felt this was an important initiative that needed a champion(s) to get it in place before this summer. Jon and Lee volunteered to champion this with Town and DPW. The Seashore beaches in Town may have its own regulations, but will include them in our "wish list" for recycling bins. Lee suggested cyclists with a trailer with fencing on 4 sides, open on top for dumped bottles, might work.

Discussion of our broad education of consumers charge. The Newsletter probably needs updated content and distribution strategies. Rick is currently posting but does not feel giving this educational component the necessary time and creativity. Seeking others to champion that work. Gary stated he would try and reassess our educational initiatives.

Lee announced the TS signage and the Provincetown Indie Community Announcement campaign.

Meeting adjourned at 6:05

Next meeting, Feb. 21, 2023, 5pm