

Eastham Recycling Committee Meeting on 7/18/2023

Attendees: Jonathan Howard, Alicia, Couture, Andrew Shearer, and Gary Senecal

### **ADMINISTRATIVE**

- June minutes approved
- There has been a positive response to composting at the transfer station. Both bins are full by the weekend and they empty on Friday.

### **MEETING FOCUS: Reducing Single-Use Plastics Education & Reducing Food Waste Composting Education**

- Discussed holding a forum with town holders of food licenses sometime in Fall 23 or Spring 24. Forum would be best in person with a Zoom link.
- Jim Russo from the Chamber of Commerce is supportive of this idea.
  - He suggested also taking with food distributors as well as grocery stores.
- Who in Eastham is responsible for monitoring commercial food waste? Mass Law requires composting when there is ½ ton or more.
- Committee with need the full list of food suppliers for Eastham and their contacts. Jonathan will connect with the Town to get the information. Alicia created a Google Document to compile the list. Are vendors seeing a shift from plastic to compostable products?
- Andrew presented information on how burning plastics produces high levels of carbon.
- Andrew found out that the chair could request an email account from the town that the committee could use for sending out information.
- Information on town suppliers: Fairway/Hole in One supplier is Trimark US Food & Reinhardt. Possibly Sysco also.
  - Restaurant Suppliers:
    - Northeast Rest. Equipment – Mashpee
    - East Coast Rest. Supply – Holbrook
    - Bay State Rest. Products – Brockton
  - Commercial Composting:
    - No one but Black Earth
    - Bootstrap Compost – Boston only
    - Blue Earth – CT
    - Compost Co-Op – Greenfield
    - Black Earth – Cape

- Methodist Church food pantry. Jonathan is on the board. Visitors can drop food off at the library bins.

## **REPORTS**

- **Windmill Weekend** – Committee will have a table on Saturday, Sept. 9<sup>th</sup> with under the town tent.
- **Climate Action Committee Liaison – Gary**
  - Working on getting the word out and trying encourage people to get solar energy.
  - Biggest concerns are money and trust (who do we use).
  - Committee is very focused on: Commercial, Residential, and municipal solar.
- **Swap Shop Liaison – Jonathan**
  - Business is booming.
  - Rainy days are a big issue. Someone donated a carport and Jonathan would need help to set it up.
- **Other Business**
  - Andrew brought up mylar and focusing on local business that produce them. They are poison to our wildlife and oceans. This should be discussed in the future.

**Next meeting Tuesday August 22, 2023 at 5pm at the Eastham Library, Eastham Room**