

Hopkinton Waste Reduction Committee

Thursday January 19,2023

minutes

Present: Diane Myler, Liz Gilmore, Kristen Cummings, Ginni Haines, Bonnie Christie. Pat LaPree, Abigail Stone.

Absent: Jeff Donohoe, Rosalie Smith, Mary Carol Schaffrath.

Guests: Sabrina Dunlap, Merideth Hatfield, Jack Ruderman, Scott Clay, Katherine Mitchell.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Bonnie Christie at 7:02 PM.

- Minutes from the November 2022 meeting were presented. The motion to accept the minutes was made by Diane and seconded by Ginni. The motion passed with no objections.
- Bonnie announced that she will meet with Bonnie Prohl of New London to discuss how they have implemented a food scrap program at the Transfer Station in New London. A notice was put in the Kearsarge Shopper newspaper and 20 families have signed up. They bring their food scraps to the TS, then a company called Renewal picks it up to compost. New London is working to expand the program to more households.
- There was a brief discussion about how the food scrap project is going at Work Song Farm. Kristen offered to check in with Dan Kilrain and get feedback from him. Pat reported that the full and empty buckets at the Farmers Market look to be well utilized.
- The Select Board have the Pay by Bag program on their agenda for the next meeting on January 23 and the meeting will be available by Zoom. Committee members are encouraged to attend.
- There will be two hearings at the State House on January 24th. HB 300 proposes that vendors that generate more than a ton of food scraps must divert that from the landfill if there are ways to do so within a 50-mile radius of the vendor. HB 462 will appropriate money to fund this and other food scrap diversion proposals. Bonnie will testify at both hearings.
- Ginni asked that we put on the next agenda a plan that would assist area businesses and events with pro-actively planning to recycle the item will be discussed further in upcoming meetings.
- Diane reported that the Slusser Center is now recycling and collecting food scraps after the senior lunch on Wednesdays.
- Pay By Bag program and a plan to revive it, as well as some ideas for solid waste reduction in Hopkinton was drafted by Bonnie and shared with the committee and guests. It outlines 11 areas that can address the current and future status of solid waste reduction. It includes the history of the PBB program since it began in 2010. There was a discussion on many of the points and we will continue to look at it. Bonnie has done a very comprehensive job and the recommendations will be shared with the Select Board.
- The motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 PM was made by Pat and seconded by Ginni. The vote to adjourn was passed without objection.
- The next meeting will be February 16th 2023 at 7:00 PM at the library.
- Respectfully Submitted,
- Patricia LaPree