

Hopkinton Waste Reduction Committee

Thursday, May18, 2023

Minutes

Present: Ginni Haines, Rosalie Smith, Mary Carol Schaffrath, Liz Gilmore, Jeff Donohoe, Abigail Stone, Pat LaPree, Bonnie Christie, Diane Myler.

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

- 1) Review and acceptance of meeting minutes for March and April 2023 meetings: Minutes were reviewed and there was one correction to the March minutes. The motion to accept the minutes as corrected was made by Ginni and seconded by Rosalie. The motion passed. The minutes will be sent to be posted on the Town website by Pat.
- 2) Update on the Pay by Bag discussion at the select board meetings:
Bonnie and Pat reported that Selectman Tom Lipoma presented a proposal for the increased cost of the green bags (that has yet to be determined) be enough to cover tipping fees plus 10%. He also proposed that commercial haulers be compensated at the TS when they pick up and bring green bags to the TS. Tom estimates that around 55% of Hopkinton residents use commercial pick up rather than go directly to the TS. The committee would like to know how many bags have been sold at the current cost or at least a rough estimate. A discussion followed about how to increase residential compliance with the green bag ordinance. No firm recommendations or decisions were made so the discussion will continue.
- 3) Bonnie has written a power point presentation to present to the Select Board next week. It focuses on waste reduction and the tasks needed to meet a goal of 25% reduction of municipal solid waste by 2030 set by the State. The committee viewed it and gave Bonnie feedback and thanked her for her hard work on the presentation.
- 4) Review and adoption of the 12 Years Out document that Bonnie presented to the committee in January: We reviewed the document and deleted number 10, since the Town passed the warrant article to allow the Selectboard to set the prices of the green bags. It was decided to delete appendices from the document because they are not needed. There was a discussion about the Recycling Revolving Fund and what its original intent was as well as its uses over the years. The motion to adopt the document with the changes and present it to the Selectboard was made by Bonnie and seconded by Rosalie. The motion passed.
- 5) Bonnie announced that Kristen Cummings has resigned from the committee effective immediately.
- 6) Abigail updated the committee on the progress of the composting program at HMHS. She said that the composters have been built and the bins for compost/recycles/trash are being delivered June 3rd. She said that students are using the compost bins. She also reported that the school district has outlawed having chickens on school property.

- 7) NRRA conference on May 22 and 23: Pat, Bonnie and Abigail are going both days, Liz and Ginni are going one day.
- 8) New/Old Business: The NRRA site review of our TS was shared. A discussion followed about the tonnage of MSW being so much higher than in other communities of similar size. Brian Patnaude's report also noted that when he was at the TS during open hours, he observed a lot of refuse that could be recycled being discarded. The committee will continue to focus on ways to reduce MSW such as recommending larger, more colorful stickers for resident's cars, enforcement of the green bag program and rethinking how we can partner with Webster to reduce our MSW.

The motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 PM was made by Abigail and seconded by Mary Carol. The motion passed.

The next meeting will be Thursday June 15 2023 at 7:00 PM at the library.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia LaPree