

Hopkinton/Webster Recycling Committee

January 18, 2018 DRAFT Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm at the Hopkinton Town Library.

Members in attendance: Becky Whitley, Rob Childs, Diane Myler, Mary Carol Shaffrath, Rosalie Smith and Ginni Haines

Mary Carol made motion to accept all past minutes. Rob 2nd. Minutes passed. There wasn't a November meeting.

Becky will touch base with Robin about minutes she's missing and Rob will touch base about what agendas she's missing.

Pay-by-bag

- Rob wants to discuss the pay-by-bag. He made it clear he isn't proposing to eliminate the program.
- Rob N. going before Select Board on Monday. He'll likely propose a warrant article.
- Neal Cass emailed Rob to tell him.
- Rosalie – bag isn't a tax, it's a fee
- Ginni said it's important to understand the history of the program. A lot of work went into the decision. A lot of it has to do with education. Chose a system where people sorted their own recycling, giving some reason to pay attention to what they're buying and throwing away.
- Becky said we shouldn't throw the baby out with the bathwater. We shouldn't get rid of a popular program because there are problems. We should work to educate people and increase recycling rates. That's the purpose of the Committee. There's a vocal minority at town meeting, but there's a strong base of support for the program. We should go back to our communication and education plan.
- Rob mentioned opposition to green bags at town meeting. Revenues from recycling are not good because of the economy.
- No institutional support for recycling at the schools.
- Becky – Should our committee work to get school board on board with recycling?
- Ginni – depends on janitorial staff and they need support and encouragement from leadership.
- School has private hauler
- Diane – should we suggest to Neal that he encourage employees at the transfer station to use more enforcement?
- Becky proposed refocusing on education campaign with Hillary at the helm.
- Can prepare for town meeting at next month's meeting.

- Neal thinks it's a good idea to have recycling committee at the select board meeting when Rob presents.
- Becky can email Neal for numbers and will send to the group to prepare for Monday.
- Diane suggested having a contest at the school.
- Select Board tasked the Committee with education on recycling and increasing recycling rates.
- Discussed Rob N's email and proposed solutions.
- Do we know where the Board is on this issue? It was 4-1 last year with Steve Lux the only member who didn't support the program.
- Campaign for supporting green bag at town meeting
 - o Get numbers and create flyer
 - o Flyer at school meeting
 - o Flyer at transfer station
 - o Flyer at town meeting
 - o Email from Susan
- The fair doesn't recycle.
- Numbers reflect when school stopped recycling and when fair stopped recycling
- Discussed merits of single stream
- Hillary will make note of questions and Rob will ask Jolene
- Mary Carol mentioned number 5s
- Rob said Jolene was looking for more markets
- 2 flyers? 1 general one with what's recyclable and another with bigger messages.
- Diane suggested training session for town people
- Trash on the lawn at school – a whole day's trash
- People don't realize what people can bring into the shed
- Visual presentation at town meeting and town voting
- Exhibit at May family fun fair
- Presentation to take on the road
- Next meeting is February 15th at 7pm at Slusser Center
- Diane moves that we adjourn
- Adjourned at 8:16pm.