

Hopkinton Recycling Committee

Draft Minutes
September 19, 2019
Library History Room

Present: Sally Embley, Ginni Haines, Mary Carol Schaffrath, Rosalie Smith, Bonnie Christie
Absent: Diane Myler, Hilary Chapman
Guest: Liz Gilmore

1. Agenda approved
2. Organizational matters:

Right-to-Know: Bonnie, Ginni and Sally reported on the Right-to-Know training by the NH Municipal Association. We discussed posting meetings, agendas, what to include in minutes, and the limitations of email communications.

Committee structure: Mary Carol made a motion to elect Bonnie as Chair, seconded by Rosalie, which was unanimously approved. After discussion, we decided to have a rotating secretary to take minutes in alphabetical order of last names. Bonnie - September; Sally - October; Ginni - November; Diane - December; Mary Carol - January; Rosalie - February. We have not heard from Hilary for some time and have no current email address so assume she is no longer active on the committee.

Location: We can meet in the Library History Room if someone can get there before they close at 6:00 pm. Some committee members cannot get there until 6:30, so Bonnie agreed to arrive by 6:00 and the meetings will begin at 6:30. **NOTE:** The History Room is not available in October but we can use the Community Room.

Ginni suggested that we try to connect with Jolene Cochrane, Transfer Station Supervisor, by phone as often as possible so she can answer questions.

3. Report from Northeast Resource Recovery Association (NRRA) meeting:

Sally and Bonnie attended the recent MOMs (Municipal Operators Meeting) in Epsom. We learned that food waste composting is legal in NH, depending on the type of permit your facility obtains. Some facilities can compost meat and dairy as well. This is a big topic that we should look at in the future.

We also learned that in New Boston they have successfully switched the school waste from a private hauler and now have their own truck to take it to the transfer station, including recycling. They have saved about \$80,000 over 9 years. We should invite the Transfer Station Supervisor to come to a meeting and explain what the initial investment was and how they did it.

4. School Task Force:

Steve Chamberlin announced that the Task Force will include two teachers (Ted Wells and Sara Baroody), three students, the Facilities Manager, Food Service Director, Superintendent, a member of the Recycling Committee, and a member of the community.

Meeting time TBA. We will be holding a TOLD (Trash on the Lawn Day) on October 10. The planning meeting is September 26.

5. Refuse Disposal Committee:

We discussed the need to get the Refuse Disposal Committee reactivated so we can discuss recycling as part of the larger waste system. There are three seats on the committee from Hopkinton; one is vacant. It appears that they have not met for over a year. Bonnie will email Neal and Jim O'Brien.

6. Dunkin Donuts:

DD is coming to the Colonial village Plaza, in the old Chinese Restaurant. We will give them a welcome visit and check out the materials and encourage compostables and reusables; discourage plastics.

7. The Climate Strike

This is planned to be at Harold Martin School at 2:15 on 9/20. Mary Carol, Bonnie and Liz plan to go. We recognize that plastics production is a big contributor to climate change.

8. Contoocook to the Coast:

Bonnie is wrapping up the last two stages: the school program and Upstream, Downstream with the CNBRLAC.

9. Letter about single-use plastics to campaigns:

Liz and Bonnie have drafted a letter to the Presidential Campaigns asking them to be leaders on plastics reduction by eliminating single-use plates cups, and utensils in their offices and at events. Bonnie will ask Neal if it can be signed by the Recycling Committee.

10. Signs:

We have discovered a new free open source for making our own signs for the recycling stations. Liz, Bonnie and Tony will do a few prototypes.

11. Other business:

Ginni reported that a hydration station will be included in the recreation budget for next year. They typically cost \$5,000-7,000. It will be installed in Riverway Park to encourage people to use refillable water bottles. We could make signs that say "Refill Not Landfill."

Meeting adjourned.

Next meeting: October 17, 6:30 in the Community Room at the Library.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie Christie