

Recycling Committee Minutes January 9, 2023

Present : Victoria Simon, Jaelyn Gerald, Dean Lessard, John Watts, Dennis Kepner, Mark Graziano, Ashly Dawson, Carol Libby, Sally Sulloway.

Minutes from December 14, 2022 approved as amended (see Carol's comments)

Food Waste: We are advised by Heather Ross (Code Office) that public drop sites would need to be accessory to a primary use, in this case food distribution so Hannaford is the only viable option. Others sites would require a variance from the Planning Board or an ordinance change. WRAD will take the lead.

Education : 2022-2023; Partner with YHS plastic Reduction Task Force to show documentary the "Story of Plastic" Feb 16, 2023 at 3:00pm at YPL. Motion was made to approve the expenditure from the RC 2022 funds. Motion passed unanimously. DPW will help promote. DPW has a few ways they can push notifications.

Recycle Coach is getting more and more hits. Mark points out that EPR will necessitate even more use of it. The Weekly Sentinel advertising resulted in a bump of hits but the York Weekly doesn't seem to have a large enough circulation.

We should make an effort to get more people to register for Recycle Coach. Mark will look into getting a price for printing and mailing post cards to residents.

Mark will send a list to DPW of errors on Recycle Coach. Dean and Jaelyn will communicate with Recycle Coach.

Keeping Track of Projects :

Ashly has set up calendar and email group with Victoria. Timelines can be sent directly by Outlook to the individuals within the group. Ashly and Victoria will rename the email /group to refine the communication processes.

Survey: Carol has comments and questions about how to revise the old survey. The survey done by DPW five years ago 'took the temperature' of the populace just prior to Casella contract. We can add, subtract or edit what we ask on the new survey but we want to have valid comparisons. We do want a question on the survey asking "would your household sign-up and pay a modest fee for curbside food waste pickup. Policy and costs have to go through the Budget Committee, then Select Board for policy / subsidizing, then the proportion/ shares determined. July of 2025 would be the target.

Costs: Carol has introduced a new feature to the Cost Reports: the percentage of Recycling versus trash, more or less 18%. Cost per ton for Casella to take our recycling is the highest it has ever been. Fluctuations in cardboard revenue have been dramatic.

Ordinance : Revision on hold pending the hiring of new Code Enforcement officer.

Collecting Data from Other Towns: Work in progress.

Meeting adjourned at 4:53 pm
Next meeting at Feb 13 at YPL.