

Recycling and Renewable Energy Committee -- Minutes
February 12, 2014 at 10am
Judge Welsh Room, Provincetown Town Hall

Agenda:

1. Approve Meeting Minutes
2. Meet Eric Larsen, DPW Deputy Director
3. Update on Trash Can Project
4. Update on Recycling Stickers
5. Update on Plastic Bag Ban steps
6. Review Town's Energy Manager Grant Application
7. Revise Language for Mission Statement
8. "Did You Know" Articles
9. Set Date for Next Meeting

Meeting called to order at 10:00am.

Members present were Laura Ludwig, Elise Cozzi, Susanalice Musall and Tracey Primavera; Lydia Hamnquist attended via Facetime; Carla Anderson had an excused absence; staff present -- Rich Waldo, Brian Carlson and Eric Larsen.

Elise moved to approve the minutes from the 1/30/14 meeting; Susanalice seconded and all were in favor.

Rich introduced Eric and reviewed the sticker background for Eric's information. Rich suggested that we may need to go to the BOH to implement a new reg so that recyclables can be collected in the larger barrels, vis a vis the existing language related to max number of bins. Brian thinks that would be just a procedural thing, handled by the staff. We would like to be able to offer the recycling barrel option to the public by March 8 (Year-rounders Fest). Brian will add it to the BOH agenda at their next meeting (2/20). RREC members will try to attend that meeting if possible, to lend support.

Lydia will check w/ David G to check on setting up a Gift Fund for income generated by the stickers.

Brian suggested we speak to Doug Johnstone about inserting an informational piece into a town-wide mailing to announce the initiative. Elise will talk to Doug about that.

Trash Can Art Project –

Susanalice was not able to get a barrel to prep for Year-rounders. We might be able to get a test barrel done with Eric's help – he will check on materials and coverage vs. cost. We will keep in touch via email to see if it can be done by March 8.

Brian confirmed that Americorps can be mobilized to prep the cans in mid- to late-March. Rich doesn't know what type of equipment they can bring to bear in terms of sandblasting or pressure washing. Eric said realistically it would make sense to do multiple barrels at a facility that can sandblast quickly (e.g. Seashore, Cape Cod Tech). The barrels should be prepped, primed and get one base layer of paint before they are delivered to the art site.

Brian and Rich will check with a couple facilities for space availability to prep the barrels. Eric will check with his contacts in the auto body business.

Rich presented a 2013 chart of total tonnage. Overall we have reduced MSW by 100 tons and increased recycling by same amount. With the expected increase in MSW tipping fees, that is headed in the right direction. This should be an item for the "Did You Know" snippets.

Recycling is not a money-maker for the town; but it costs less to handle it (no tipping fee). DPW may start charging commercial haulers to dump recyclables at the Transfer Station. Also they will encourage other recycling haulers to use the Transfer Station.

Energy Manager Grant Application – Brian updated us, as we are the town's designated Energy Committee. By virtue of having a Green Community designation we are required to keep on top of it to achieve a 20% reduction. This funding opportunity would pay \$50k to the position in Y1, and the position would gradually get incorporated into the town's budget over 3 years, paid for by cost-savings thru the program. The position would work on energy initiatives town-wide. Lydia signed a support letter for the grant application.

Plastic Bags – Lydia said that town counsel gave us language at an earlier meeting. Laura will ask for that language from Gregg Corbo and then tweak it to suit our criteria. Our language should be consistent with other town templates to help ensure compliance, and should focus on "single-use plastic bags". At our next meeting we will review and approve finalized language, which will be forwarded to the BOS by March 7th for their consideration and inclusion on the Town Meeting docket.

RREC logo – Tracey showed her draft of our logo. Everyone liked the basic design, and two other options were suggested. She will send around photos of all three options so we can decide by next meeting. Laura will work w/ Tracey to print them out as stickers for the tourist guides.

PSA – Elise passed around the draft language of the PSA for use by the various media outlets. We will firm up the language via email before they are submitted.

Facebook page – Laura started a new page and will make Tracey an administrator.

Next meeting on Wednesday, March 5 at 10am to prepare for Year-rounder's Fest.

Motion to adjourn was made by Elise; Susanalice seconded; all were in favor and meeting adjourned at 12:00pm.