

Recycling and Renewable Energy Committee

Minutes from 7 July 2009, 5-6:25pm, Community Center, Provincetown

Attending: Amy Germain, Ghee Patrick, Lee Bartell, Mike Leger, Deb Kmetz

Previous Minutes: Amy moved to approve, Ghee seconded, 4/0

Voting in Deb Kmetz: She owns Clearview Window Cleaning, and is beginning a property management business, where she's eager to use green products. Deb was approved 4/0. She'll be an alternate until she can fill a full member opening.

Recycling Card: Mike printed a large version which we saw, and reported that Elsa, who had the card designed and is printing, has been paid, as the bill was submitted before the end of June, and spent \$500 of our budget (\$350 for 5000 cards and \$150 to distribute them all over town). Amy suggested that in the next town-wide mailing (water bills, etc.) that we include it as we did with the wind turbine card. She also suggested that we send the attachment to Sandy Turner, David Guertin, David Gardner, Brian Carlson, for their information. We were not notified that the DPW was sending out a recycling mailing, but felt that it was a good thing to let them know what we're doing. Lee had shown the card to Girard at the DPW, and talked on the phone with Sandy to get the dates and other info straight.

Web Link: Mike pointed out the web link that's on our new recycling card, is the most up-to-date trash and recycling info, and he'll ask the Health Dept. at its meeting this Thursday, if they'll put this link onto the town's homepage, with clicking on Provincetown Recycles to see it.

January 2010: State-wide regulations are changing on that date, and NO recyclables will be allowed in trash. SEMASS will have the right to refuse trash from any community that has recyclables in it. Lee pointed out that for 2 years, she's been saying that the way to ensure that no recyclables are in trash bags is to go with clear bags, for the street trash cans, and for homeowners, too. It's a proven fact that communities that go with clear bags get incredible recycling compliance. Amy said that now's the time to look into these new rules, and bring this to Sharon Lynn.

Big Belly: A meeting was held with Amy Germain, Tom Coen, Sharon Lynn, David Gardiner, Tony from Building & Grounds, and two men from the Big Belly company. We've got a \$12,000 grant that can be used to purchase these, so the town wants to "buy" 4 of them. Amy asked the men if they couldn't do more for us, and they agreed to add 2 more, for a total of 6. It'll be a pilot project with no cost to the town. There will be some promotional materials that they'll develop, which we'll want to see before the public does. Amy believes that this whole thing is a management issue, and that Sharon Lynn and Sandy Turner need to help make this happen. Recycling is the law. Our frustrations in increasing recycling aren't due to any one person, it's really just how do we get done, what needs to be done. And we know that if we get these Big Bellies, we MUST have a recycling bin next to each one of the 6.

Board of Health: In its regulations, it states that each household may have 2 32-gallon trash bags and 1 recycling bin. We think that it needs to be reversed, with a smaller trash container and as much recycling as possible.

Cape Light Compact: Mike spoke with Maggie Downey and found out that the contract with the Cape & Vineyard Electric Coop, fell through the cracks in town, and he'll try to see

if it can be found. If not, then he'll ask Maggie to send again, and hope that Sharon Lynn will bring it to the Selectboard to sign it. Ghee suggested we write a letter to the Selectboard about this, but Mike said to wait to see if it's found first.

Allied Waste: Mike spoke with Mike Ryan, who told him that they've started Single Stream in Truro. Single Stream means that all recyclables, paper, bottles (glass and plastic), cans, cardboard, etc., all go into the same container, and trash goes into the other. It's so easy for consumers to consolidate their recyclables, it all gets co-mingled. Mike got the list of all commercial businesses in town from the Assessors office, and gave it to him. Mike asked Mike Ryan if they're prepared to do this for the entire town. Since our contract with IPR is over next June 30, it's not too soon to for the town to be looking into what it plans to do.

Adjournment: Lee moved to adjourn, Amy seconded it, 5/0

Next Meeting: Wednesday, 5 August 2009, 4pm, (note new time) Community Center, Provincetown

Minutes by Lee