

Town of Cape Elizabeth
Recycling Committee
Meeting Minutes
January 2, 2025

Present: Becky Fernald (BF), Tim Trachimowicz (TT), Stephanie Austin (SA), Greg Stewart (GS), Jenna Pfeuller (JP)

Absent: Nina Trowbridge (NT)

Staff: Jay Reynolds (JR)

Public/Guests: none

1. Call to Order

SA called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm

2. Approval of December 5, 2024 Draft Meeting Minutes:

The December 5, 2024 meeting minutes were amended and unanimously approved by the committee.

5 Yes, 0 No

3. Citizens Opportunity for Public Comment on Items Not on the Agenda:

None

4. Review of Committee Goals

JR noted the inclusion of the Recycling Committee's 2024 goals. The Committee reviewed the goals for 2025. Several edits and modifications were proposed. JR offered to revise the goals based on the comments provided at the meeting and will include a new draft of the goals at the February meeting.

5. Outreach, Communications, and Social Media

JP spoke about some upcoming social media posts in January.

JP also provided a copy of the State of Maine's new climate action report that was recently published. The report is a 4-year plan and is an update from the 2020 plan. SA: commented on the recent article in courier re Chriss Sutherland and school composting.

BF: Discussed the Cape Courier articles and how to keep them going without Eve Downing on the Recycling Committee anymore. SA: offered to write articles as they arise. BF also offered to assist. TT: Suggested a quarterly frequency in the future.

The Committee decided to discuss the Q+A series and the Cape Courier articles at the next Recycling Committee meeting. Committee members also volunteered to reach out to Eve regarding other initiatives, such as signage, article templates, et cetera.

6. Committee Member Updates and Correspondence

TT: Bottle shed: award letter, change language, moving forward, volunteer. TT: signup form link (expired). SA set up new signup and link. Email had link. TT read draft award letter language. TT: discussed verifying volunteer efforts. JR to work with attendants to monitor with signup. BF: signup slots, times? Comm. Discussed volunteering efforts.

SA: BF, NT, SA met, wrote email to PCES Pincipal, follow up to meet after school vacation.

SA: Plastic film, winding down at Library, working on educational component of program. Still working on whether another site will be in CE. TT: Best Buy plastic film bins. Need a home and a volunteer group. BF: some discussion about high school.

BF: NT noted in an email waste diversion grants. Share with school staff Chriss and Tom Farmer. SA: grant app.'s due end of month. SA/BF to forward to school staff.

7. Recycling Center Update

Jay Reynolds (JR) gave a brief update regarding the transfer station operations.

JR noted that the single-use battery recycling is being heavily utilized. JR noted that a future meeting with Restore is anticipated to continue the discussion about partering with them. SA asked about staffing. JR noted that levels continue to be at full-staff.

8. Other Business

JP: inquired about the solar project. JR provided and updated schedule.

9. Citizens Opportunity to Discuss Items on the Agenda.

None.

10. Adjourn: The Committee voted unanimously to adjourn at 8:27 pm.