

Town of Cape Elizabeth
Recycling Committee
Meeting Minutes
March 2, 2023

Present: Jennifer MacDonald (JM), Eve Downing (ED), Greg Stewart (GS), Becky Fernald (BF), Tim Trachimowicz (TT), Jenna Pfueller (JP)

Absent: Stephanie Austin (SA)

Staff: Jay Reynolds (JR), Director of Public Works

Public/Guests: None

1. Call to Order:

JM called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

2. Approval of February 2, 2023 Draft Meeting Minutes:

The February 2, 2023 meeting minutes were amended and unanimously approved by the committee.

6 Yes, 0 No

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

None

4. Committee Goals: The committee briefly discussed the committee's goals. An updated version has been prepared by TT. JM brought up the topic of a Town Council Goal regarding the "Don't Trash Cape" initiative. JR elaborated that the Council wishes to task the Recycling Committee with this effort. The committee discussed various aspects of the initiative. JR offered to outline a framework for the committee to consider at the next meeting. The committee agreed to add this item to their 2023 goals. TT suggested language to add and offered to update and finalize the goals.

5. Outreach, Communications, and Social Media:

ED discussed the "Let's Talk Recycling" effort with the Cape Courier. ED reviewed the recently published article regarding food waste as well as some of the upcoming articles that may include topics covering battery recycling and Styrofoam. The committee also discussed the 'Buy Nothing, Sell Nothing' option that exists for Cape residents.

JP announced that she has been working on setting up a clothing swap event at the Library. JP shared information regarding the event, which is tentatively scheduled for April 1. The committee was supportive of the concept and plan for the event. JP asked if any committee members might be able to volunteer during the event. ED suggested the information be sent to SA for social media posting to promote the event.

6. Committee Updates and Correspondence:

JM began the discussion regarding the Cape Challenge 5k. Several members provided items for the raffle and prize giveaway for this event. It was noted that the event is on May 21st, from 8:00 AM to 10:30 AM. The committee discussed having a table set up

near the compost stations, with the preference to be located near the finish line. JM mentioned that the Cape Challenge 5K committee asked if the Recycling Committee has any ideas on how to make their event greener, they'd be interested in hearing them. JM suggested the committee finalize the staffing of the table at the next meeting in April.

JR read an email he received from a resident regarding recycling and educating the public about recycling rates and disposal costs.

TT and JR provided an update with regards to the bottle shed donations and funding disbursements.

7. **Recycling Center Update:** JR provided the committee with statistical recycling information, which included Ecomaine's monthly recycling and MSW data. Also included and discussed were: historical food waste, paint products, and scrap metal recycling amounts. Also shown and discussed was Apparel Impact's annual report, which included state-wide and municipal recycling tonnages for clothing and textiles.
8. **Other Business:** JM and JR updated the committee on the water bottle filling stations project and recent coordination and progress with the Fort Williams Park Advisory Committee.
9. **Citizens Opportunity for Discussion of Items on the Agenda**
None
10. **Adjourn:** The committee voted unanimously to adjourn at 7:59 PM

Respectfully Submitted,
Jay Reynolds