

Town of Cape Elizabeth
Recycling Committee
Meeting Minutes
June 5, 2025

Present: Becky Fernald (BF), Stephanie Austin (SA), Jenna Pfueller (JP), Nina Trowbridge (NT), Melissa Kim (MK)

Absent: Greg Stewart (GS), Tim Trachimowicz (TT)

Staff: Jay Reynolds (JR)

Public/Guests: none

1. Call to Order

SA called the meeting to order at 7:06 pm

2. Approval of May 1, 2025 Draft Meeting Minutes:

The May 1, 2025 meeting minutes unanimously approved by the committee.
5 Yes, 0 No

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

None

4. Outreach, Communications, and Social Media

MK discussed some potential future cape courier articles. MK developed a spreadsheet that groups several recycling categories that have similar themes. The committee discussed the frequency of quarterly articles, the Courier issue dates and due dates for submissions. MK is coordinating with the Cape Courier. The committee also discussed the individual categories and who might write an article for each one. JR offered to send MK the recycling rates, charts, and other pertinent information for the trash and recycling article.

JP noted the upcoming Ecomaine Tour is scheduled for June 30th. The committee discussed several details for the event.

5. Committee Member Updates and Correspondence

JP noted that Cape Fest is this Sunday. JP will be walking with 'Recyclops', the Cape Recycles mascot. JP has handouts for the recycling table at the event that covers different recycling efforts. There will also be a recycling game with prizes.

JP also received additional handouts and prizes from Clynk and Goodwill. The committee discussed volunteering shifts during cape fest, including parade and table logistics, event schedule/times for table setup and parade. Meet up times, etc.

JP has contacted Goodwill regarding their free tours at their Gorham location. The committee discussed possible dates and times for a tour of their facility.

JP showed the committee several recycling fliers for Cape Fest, which will be distributed to the Recycling Committee.

BF noted that she attended an event with the 4th grade students who assisted with the food composting program at the middle school. The event celebrated the work that students, also known as 'helpers', performed with the food composting efforts at the middle school. The students answered questions that gave feedback on the new program. The committee discussed several of the feedback and recommendations. The committee also discussed other groups who might be able to provide classroom presentations on recycling. NT and BF will be following up with school staff in August to discuss future recycling efforts.

SA and BF met with Tom Farmer at the high school regarding composting efforts at the high school. SA also met with the environmental student group. A follow up meeting is scheduled for August. The committee discussed food waste handling and storage logistics.

NT will be contacting Restore/Habitat for Humanity to further the discussion about diverting materials from the bulky waste at the Recycling Center.

6. Recycling Center Update

JR noted that the Ecomaine Tour on June 30th was noticed as a public meeting.

JR discussed spring Sunday cleanup days and recent feedback.

JR also noted that Ecomaine will be providing a presentation to the town council next Monday.

JR gave an update on the Solar Project.

7. Other Business

MK offered to design some recycling-related magnets, which may include the new web address, recycling center hours, a QR code to Ecomaine's recyclopedia page, and more.

8. Citizens Opportunity to Discuss Items on the Agenda.

None.

9. Adjourn: The Committee voted unanimously to adjourn at 8:05 pm.