

Town of Cape Elizabeth
Recycling Committee
Meeting Minutes
August 4, 2022

Present: Stephanie Austin (SA), Jennifer MacDonald (JM), Kara Lavender Law (KL), Eve Downing (ED), Tim Trachimowicz (TT), Jenna Pfueller (JP)

Absent: Bruce Rayner (BR)

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

Public/Guests: Benson Dana

1. Call to Order

TT called the meeting to order at 7:07 PM.

2. Approval of June 2, 2022 Draft Meeting Minutes

The June 2, 2022 meeting minutes were approved as amended by a roll call vote.

6 Yes, 0 No

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

Resident Benson Dana had previously requested several areas of information, including Ecomaine's invoicing to the Town. He provided a brief summary of his findings with regards to recycling loads that had high contamination rates. Benson provided a handout showing the finances of paying the higher rate due to the contamination.

4. Q&A Series: ED informed the committee members that she is continuing to work on this initiative. ED mentioned that she plans on having Ecomaine review the Q&A series, get it ready for the Cape Courier, and have a more detailed update at the next Recycling Committee meeting.

5. Outreach, Communications, and Social Media:

SA and the committee discussed the options with regards to social media, boosting posts, and pushing online material so that it reaches a wider audience. SA suggested that she can create an Instagram page. TT noted there are no recycling groups on Instagram in Maine, however, there are from several other states, including Massachusetts. The committee members discussed cross-referencing other recycling agencies. KL noted two specific groups, including Maine Resource Recovery Association (MRRA). SA discussed the content of future posts, which could use photographs of products and use the theme of whether it can be recycled or not. ED discussed the Cape POD and the Buy Nothing/Sell Nothing social media pages. SA mentioned that the Cape POD has been used to broadcast the bottle donations program. ED noted she plans on crafting a social media message to promote the Recycling Committee.

6. Committee Updates and Correspondence:

The committee discussed their participation at the Cape Challenge 5k event and reviewed how it went.

TT and KL noted that they had attended a recent school project design meeting. KL also spoke to the school superintendent at the meeting.

JP noted that she is part of the outreach committee for the school project. She stated that the last iteration of the school design had a green roof component and that many are advocating for sustainability in the design. The committee discussed various school recycling and sustainability topics, and also discussed the possibility of inviting the superintendent to a future Recycling Committee meeting to discuss recycling logistics/options for the new schools.

7. **Recycling Center Update:** JR provided the committee with several statistical spreadsheets that includes fiscal year 2022 and other historical information. Several committee members discussed specific aspects of the Recycling Center, including the bottle shed building, the future apparel collection program, the Paint Care program, and others.

8. **Other Business:** No discussion.

9. **Citizens Opportunity for Discussion of Items on the Agenda**

Benson Dana inquired as to whether the Lions Club had previously applied for bottle donation funds. JR noted that they had not, however, a new Lions Club representative recently inquired and has been added to the contact list for 2022 applications.

10. **Adjourn:** The committee voted unanimously to adjourn at 8:08 PM

The next meeting of the Committee will be held on Thursday, September 1, 2022.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jay Reynolds