

Town of Cape Elizabeth
Recycling Committee
Meeting Minutes
October 6, 2022

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

Absent: Bruce Rayner (BR)

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

Public/Guests: None

1. Call to Order

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

2. Approval of September 1, 2022 Draft Meeting Minutes

The September 1, 2022 meeting minutes were approved by a roll call vote.

6 Yes, 0 No

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

None

4. School Recycling Discussion: Was postponed until the November meeting. TT indicated that School Superintendent Chris Record was unable to attend the October meeting and is planning on attending in November.

5. Outreach, Communications, and Social Media:

SA discussed setting up an Instagram page. SA and ED are coordinating on this topic. It was noted that the topic of the new Apparel Impact drop box was posted on a recent Facebook post. This was well received and got several 'likes'. JR stated that due to its initial popularity, Apparel Impact is considering supplying a second container at the Recycling Center. Additional signage is also being developed. ED suggested either including this in an upcoming Q+A series, or having the Cape Courier run an article on the topic. The entire committee discussed this topic. JR and SA noted several contacts at the Courier that they could reach out to.

The Committee discussed political signs and possibly providing recycling guidance in the near future.

6. Committee Updates and Correspondence:

SA discussed the water bottle filling station grant. SA shared the draft application with the Committee members and received several comments and edits. The deadline of October 31st was mentioned. JP noted some potential sponsorship options that could assist with funding beyond what the grant will pay for.

SA discussed the inquiry regarding the recycling of single use plastics. There is an organization "Plastic Film Recycling" that SA has contacted through their website.

TT discussed the bottle donations program. Several applicants have reached out to him.

TT noted that webmaster Susana Hubbs will be posting another message regarding the

program and the deadline of October 14th. JR noted that he has received seven applications to date and is expecting several more just before the deadline.

JP brought up a new topic that has been seen in other parts of the country called “Freedge”. The concept is a refridgerator that can be accessed to donate and receive food. The committee discussed whether Cape could benefit from this idea. The committee also discussed potential locations and partners. JP offered to research more on the subject and report back to the committee.

7. **Recycling Center Update:** JR provided the committee with updates to employee staffing and the newly-implemented apparel collection program. JR also provided the committee with three years of information regarding food waste recovery totals. The committee discussed curbside and backyard composting. JR also informed the committee regarding the schedule for two events. First, the Town’s annual mobile document shredding event is scheduled for Saturday, October 8th, from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Secondly, the Town’s annual household hazardous waste day is scheduled for Saturday, November 5th from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM.

8. **Other Business:** None

9. **Citizens Opportunity for Discussion of Items on the Agenda**
None

10. **Adjourn:** The committee voted unanimously to adjourn at 8:02 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Jay Reynolds