

WELLFLEET RECYCLING COMMITTEE
Minutes for February 1, 2022 at 11:00 AM
Virtual Zoom Meeting, Recorded

Members present: Nancy Najmi, Christine Shreves, Lydia Vivante, Jane Sharp, Jaya Karlson, Olivia Kraus, Chris W.

Others Present: Carol Magenau (Wellfleet Energy & Climate Action Committee), Gary Senecal (Eastham Recycling Committee).

Christine Shreves called the meeting to order at 11:01 AM.

1. UPDATES:

- a) Transfer Station / Recycling Center: Mike Cicale was unable to attend due to the blizzard clean-up from the Saturday January 29, 2022 storm.
- b) Energy & Climate Action Committee liaison: Carol had no updates.
- c) Annual Town Report -- due Feb 1: Christine asked the town's interim accountant Lisa to confirm that the Recycling Committee's operating budget of \$1500 will remain the same as last year.
- d) Annual Calendar notes: This is the time of year to consider any petition articles.
 - Select Board member Ryan Curley has submitted a letter regarding a plastic bottle ban for bottles less than one gallon. Christine opened the discussion on any suggestions or comments we might have. Lydia suggested we look at the specific language of the proposed ban. This current ban would affect juices, juice drinks and milk as written; we need to ask Ryan if that is the intent. We may want to investigate the Yarmouth municipal ban for all bottles, the Bennington, Vermont plastic project (no resources yet available), Sierra Club efforts, Five Gyres efforts, and the bill being worked on by the Conservation Law Foundation (CLF). Christine suggested we send research information and a definition of single serve bottle to Ryan. Jaya suggested that less than a quart be the designation for single serving and Chris W agreed that it is important that the petition be consistent. Lydia volunteered to watch the video from the January 4, 2022 Select Board meeting and talk to Ryan Curley about his rationale. Christine S volunteered to research what other towns like Concord, MA and Nantucket have done with bottle bans.
 - Lydia suggested that we add a calendar item for February for us to prepare an insert for the Harbormaster to include in the March mailing

for boat slip/mooring renewals. The insert will provide information about recycling boat wrap, non-toxic boat clean-ups, and boat trash in general.

e) MassDEP / Barnstable County / Cape Cod Commission: No update.

f) Public Works Refill Stations progress: No progress has been made since last meeting. We can wait until July for the 2023 budget to kick in, and request more funding for water stations at the next town meeting. Provincetown has a new waterfront park which was co-funded by the town and the state of Massachusetts Division of Conservation Services, Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations for Communities (PARC) Grant Program. Christine S is going to contact Sherry Prada of the Provincetown DPW to learn about the PARC grant in case it might be an appropriate grant source for Wellfleet's water refill stations.

g) Swap Shop, new building: No update.

2. WASTE REDUCTION:

Review of Local Events:

- a) Christine S and Nancy went to Duck Harbor on Saturday January 22, 2022 for the Americorps sponsored MLK beach clean-up. The group collected about 1000 pounds of debris which was sorted and cataloged by the Americorps interns.

Plastic Reduction Initiatives:

- a) Plastic Water Bottle Ban/Refill Cape Cod: Jill Talladay (CARE for the Cape and Islands) was at the Duck Harbor beach clean up and said that we can put a link to the Wellfleet Recycling Committee and a link to Refill Cape Cod on the CARE website so that other towns will become interested in joining. Christine S will send a follow-up email to Jill.
- b) Reduce Aquaculture Plastics grant: No update.
- c) Bottle Bill Expansion / Universal Redemption law: No update.
- d) Packaging / Reusable Containers: Christine S noted that Meals on Wheels is doing a pilot with reusable containers at the national level (not in Wellfleet yet).
- e) Community Cutlery / Library of Things: March will be a better time for Chris W to start taking pictures of the items available at the Library of Things. A dedicated shed for the Library of Things would be helpful since items are currently stored in two different spaces.

3. OUTREACH MATERIALS

- a) Website and Social Media posts: Olivia updated the website with Refill Cape Cod information and wonders if there is any compost update to add. Chris W posted four times on Instagram: The MLK day beach clean-up, Recycle Smart, plastic packaging and produce and about shredded paper. Christine S will email Chris W the Americorps beach clean-up summary for posting.

- b) Chamber of Commerce newsletter/Independent item/ad: No update.
- c) Textile Recycling Guide distribution: Lydia shared the latest version of the textile recycling guide. Chris W suggested that electronic copies of the guide contain links to websites, but the printed guides have the actual website addresses. Discussion followed about how to distribute the guide. We can print it at the library and post it at the Council on Aging (COA). Christine S reminded us that we have a credit for a Chamber of Commerce eblast if we want to distribute the guide widely. Wellfleet Forum also sends out information about civic events. On February 16, 2022 we can put announcements on the State of the Town via Zoom. We can include the guide on the Wellfleet DPW page. Olivia can put the textile flyer on the map and on our webpage with its own drop down. Chris W will take parts of the flyer on individual Instagram posts. Farrukh Najmi will post the Textile Recycling Guide on the Wellfleet Facebook Community page.
- d) Discovery Map ad: The Wellfleet/Eastham Discovery Map will include the QR code for water refill stations. There are four new National Seashore water refill stations. The town of Eastham water station installations are on hold until spring. At that time we will update the water refill app to show only installed water stations.
- e) Compost in the news: No update.

REPORTS

Minutes: Jaya moved we accept the January 4, 2022 minutes, Jane seconded, all voted to approve them 7-0.

Accounting Report: We have \$1309 for the current fiscal year which we can't rollover, and need to spend by June 30, 2022. Some of the funds will go to printing costs, other possibilities discussed were containers for the Library of Things, a Shade Tent for events, and a Wellfleet Recycling banner. In March we may know of other items.

Next meeting: March 1, 2022