

WELLFLEET RECYCLING COMMITTEE
Minutes for August 2, 2022 at 11:00 PM
Virtual Zoom Meeting, Recorded

Members present: Christine Shreves, Nancy Najmi, Lydia Vivante, Olivia Kraus, Chris Wisniewski.

Others Present: Mike Cicale (Wellfleet Transfer Station), Carol Magenau (Wellfleet Energy & Climate Action Committee)

Christine Shreves called the meeting to order at 11:02 AM.

Announcements:

- Christine S forwarded an email invitation from the Wellfleet Board of Health (BOH) for a meeting scheduled for August 10, 2022 to discuss proposed changes to the BOH regulations pertaining to septic systems.

UPDATES

a. Transfer Station / Recycling Center:

Mike said he has a nearly full staff, as the TS was able to hire 3 full time employees. Boat shrinkwrap collection went well. There is a full dumpster of pretty clean shrink wrap. Republic services in Brockton will take it without zippers, rope, etc, although one third of the dumpster still has wrap with vents, zips etc that will need to be removed with cutters. Americorps members cleaned most of the wrap and said the Wellfleet shrinkwrap was the cleanest wrap of all the towns. Mike needs more volunteers (ten would be ideal) to help with this last third of a dumpster. He anticipates it will take one or two hours. Send an email to Mike if you can help. Lydia suggested emailing people who have helped with prior coast sweeps. If you volunteer you can take as much wrap as you want for tarp use, etc. Lydia will add that to the email. Carol and Olivia can do either Sunday August 7 or Monday August 8. Mike will check the forecast for Sunday morning. The shrinkwrap is in the area below the Swap Shop which is shady in the morning. Mike and one other TS staff will help. Lydia will send an email to see if people are available to help on Sunday August 7. Christine S will bring family members to help. Volunteers should bring their own scissors, box cutters and gloves. Olivia read an article about Maine not taking demo from Massachusetts anymore and wondered if that would affect the Wellfleet TS, but Mike said currently we don't directly send demo out of state, although he doesn't know exactly where the haulers take it. We have a new contract with S+J excavating out of Dennis, while the prior contractor didn't even bid.

b. Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) days: Truro on 8/6/22 and in Provincetown on 10/1/22.

c. Energy & Climate Action Committee liaison: Dick Elkin will lead three workshops about how to cope with climate change. The first will be 7-8:30, Aug 31 at the Wellfleet library, two additional talks will be given at two week intervals. This is for residents and businesses. Dick Elkin has so far given this presentation to Jewish congregations. The Committee has been writing letters to the Cape Cod Collaborative applying for grants to purchase electric school buses. In 2018 they converted many buses to propane. They are looking for others to write letters too. Carol will send us the address.

d. MassDEP/BarnstableCounty: Kari Parcell had a scheduling conflict.

e. Community Cutlery / Library of Things purchases: Discussion began on how to coordinate the borrowing and returning and marketing of all of the items in Community Cutlery/Library of Things. Christine S suggested we create a google doc to schedule and record this. Borrowers and inquiries send emails to wellfleetreycles, which Christine S and Lydia can forward to the group. Christine S suggests one person be the central contact to document who is borrowing what when. Lydia feels the book is the best way to track items. In the off season it's great to have stuff where we have easy access. Christine S described new purchases of the wagon and sandbags for the tent and wondered when the library will be ready to start adding CC+ to their catalog. Christine S has photos & descriptions of all items in Google photos, but can't export the descriptions she added. Lydia sent an email with the stuff borrowed most by people. Could we put this on our website? Do we put the catalog in a powerpoint or spreadsheet format? Christine S will try to combine all the info. Castle Hill recently borrowed 200 forks and knives, but actually needed more. We might want to get more at some church thrift shops etc. Brunswick, Maine and Framingham, Massachusetts both have library of things cataloged through their library websites.

f. Eastham Recycling Committee 'Did You Know That?' proposal: Lee Bartell of the Eastham RC responded to our questions about the Provincetown Independent proposal. Ed Miller of the Ptown Independent said the article can be weekly. A short weekly column sounds wonderful as long he doesn't have to do anything and it's free. "Did you know that?" was a title from a column in the Ptown Banner 15 years ago. Lee would like to keep the title because people looked for the answers to their questions about waste issues there. Truro RC is inactive. Ptown RC supports it. Lee is the person through whom we will coordinate this. Chris W asked if each town has their own week. For Wellfleet's turn we could promote the instagram page and make use of what Chris W has posted. Christine S asked for suggestions about how to proceed. Lydia suggested posting about textile recycling. Mike corresponded with another textile recycling vendor, but Baystate offers twice the money. Mike will update signs for new MASSDEP waste bans going into effect on November 1, 2022. Food waste threshold for businesses to compost have been lowered, no mattresses in trash, no textiles, latex paint recycling-these are already

being done by Wellfleet. Shells are not yet banned from the waste stream, even though we have the shell recycling.

For the Independent column, we will provide link to RC instagram posts and the RC website. The Sept article could be about the water bottle ban. Chris W has no time right now. Articles are due by Monday. Wednesday online paper is out. We can focus on the new waste ban and textiles for August. Somebody will talk to Lee and figure out the schedule. Lydia will ask Lee if she wants to post the first article. Nancy is available after August 20 to help with the article. Olivia available after September. Lydia can write the August article with paint recycling info, Nancy can write in September about the Town Meeting amendment to the plastic bottle ban, Olivia can write in November about food waste. Lydia thinks maybe it's better to have textile stuff in October.

We can also remind visitors to Wellfleet that recycling is free at the Transfer Station. Food waste, recycling, and latex can be recycled by anybody at the TS for free. Shall we add that to recycle smart card and give them to realtors for summer rentals, or just put our website out there? We need to get some recycling flyers to the Beach Office and to the Chamber of Commerce info building. Chris W will post about that. Shellfish recycling pick up is being expanded into other towns resulting in less shells available for driveways. Shells help harden the road base because of the calcium - Mike says the town uses the recycled shells in TS and on Lieutenant Island road sides. The harbor doesn't use these shells because there is usually too much debris in them for that. The shells are pretty clean the last two years - more education has helped.

g. July 10th Road Race Report: went well, we had a tent set up, many volunteers.

h. State Bottle Bill Expansion: Lydia hasn't heard back - she sent an email to state representative Sarah Peake to get news back. MassRecycle did a position piece on their website with a history of the State Bottle Bill.

i. Annual Calendar notes: OysterFest Sept 19–Oct 16; Shuck N Run Road Race date to be announced; We can write to Tom Siggia or the board asking if they need our help or materials for recycling.

COASTSWEEP Oct 10 Denny from Conservation Trust is organizing this. Dumpster at Mayo Beach.

2. WASTE REDUCTION

a. Special Town Meeting Saturday Sept 10:

- Plastic Bottle Ban Bylaw amendment, outreach-Christine S will update previous flyer and send it out for us to review
- DPW Budget items: Refill Stations, Transfer Station Engineering Study (Swap Shop)

- Water refill - will the town meeting need water for this meeting? It is likely to be outside.
- b. Carry In Carry Out signs:** Olivia said Peter at DPW came through with temporary metal signs Olivia will put them on Wellfleet Shellfish Constable Nancy Civetta's six poles; Fox Island, Burton Baker Beach, Indian Neck Beach. Olivia will take pictures of new signs at the beaches and will send them to be posted.
- c. Refill Cape Cod outreach (Discovery Map, Decals)** - Christine S has many decals, if a business agrees to provide water we add them to Discovery Maps and give them a decal. Gelato Joy doesn't own the building. Business owner has signed up on Black Earth and wants to get compost picked up. Lydia said Chamber needs to get involved.
- d. Reduce Aquaculture Plastics:** no update
- e. Reusable Food Containers pilot:** no update

3. OUTREACH MATERIALS

- a. Farmers' Market table, review materials/sales:** Coloring sheets, Recyclesmart MA cards, we sold three flour sacks. Is there a date when we want to be there again? Wed set up is easy. Drive right up.
- b. Flour sack RC towels, order more?** Shall we order more? Cost 5 we sold for 15. LV will get a quote from her.
- c. Educational info distribution:** RecycleSmart cards, Green Tips, Boaters & Textile Recycling guides, CC+ catalog: Get info to beach office and chamber building. Printed business cards often being done.
- d. Website and Social Media posts:** Chris W posted about the next hazardous waste collection and will post on the facebook community page. She will post about volunteers for shrink wrap. We have 543 followers. 100 posts. We need to clean up the town website page. CS asked for some updates. Jane Sharp decided to step down as of June 30, 2022.
- e. Chamber of Commerce newsletter/email blast/Visitor Center rack cards:** We need to refill the rack with our flyers.

MINUTES: Olivia moved we approve the June, 2022 and July, 2022 minutes. Lydia seconded. The motions were approved 5-0.

ACCOUNTING REPORT: Less than \$300 left from FY22 went back to free cash, we have \$1500 for FY23.

COMMITTEE VACANCIES: one full vacancy and two alternates

Next meeting September 13, 2022-September 6th is election day

Adjourned 12:02