

Town of Cape Elizabeth Recycling Committee
Minutes of October 23, 2008 Meeting

Members Present: Rachel Stamieszkin, Sara Spidle, Gerry Davis, Jennifer Hansen, Greg Walsh, Mike Pulsifer Guests: Bob Malley

Rachel called the meeting to order at 7:02 P.M. in the conference room of the Public Works Building.

On motion duly made and seconded it was voted: To accept the minutes of the September 25th, 2008 meeting.

The committee learned that the town buys remnant rags from Goodwill, and the disposal of clothing not suitable for resale/use was discussed by the committee. Bob will look into this with Goodwill to see if there is a place for disposing of these textiles.

The topic of animal waste was researched yet no additional information or ideas for lowering the amount that gets put into the waste system was found.

Marketing ideas for increased recycling were presented by Jen, such as a "sports theme". "Got milk?" type of ads were found to be catchy, yet informative. Jen will email drawings to Courier to preview. Bob suggested that we invite Elizabeth Brogan, the Courier editor, to a meeting to increase her understanding of the committee.

The recycling rate is 27.6%. The town has been recording weight of refuse and recycling from the schools, as there are now both containers directly outside the doors of the school, and ecomaine is recording their weight separately. These dumpsters are hauled 3 days a week. Sept= 8.98 tons of refuse, 4.43 tons of recycling from the schools.

Bob ordered 75 recycling containers for use in all departments in town. The recycling from the offices/schools, need to be in clear bags, as ecomaine will throw away black bags.

Jen came up with a 15 min presentation on recycling to share with WeePods at the elementary school. Jen and Sara will help with this at school in November.

There are eight bottle recycling bins at the town sport fields, and Sara will contact Jeff Thoreck to acquire additional information regarding their maintenance.

The survey/questionnaire was discussed, and data gathering could possibly be done by students for their senior transition project, or on the recycling website. Though it was agreed that if someone was visiting the website that they already had an interest in recycling, where this survey is to gather information on why people do not recycle. The option of a table at the election was discussed but it was decided that it might be too hectic.

The town subcommittee for recycling is scheduled for November 10th.

The committee was contacted by a citizen desiring information regarding Hobstone condo association and their private hauler who does not recycle. Bob Malley has spoken with Pearson and Mr. Grub, private haulers, who are willing to offer and promote recycling in town.

A citizen emailed the committee regarding the swap shop and the rumor that it could be closing or turned over to Goodwill. The management of the SS has always been on the table with Public Works, but there are no plans for turning it over at this point. There have also been complaints on the speed at which the SS is cleaned out without giving ample time for citizens to visit and browse. There has been an increase in the amount of full clean outs according to Gerry, though Bob gives the transfer station attendant the power to cull it as she sees the need.

Mike will look into the Saco "point system" by contacting Mike Boulder.

Bob will place new swinging door" recycling containers at the library to keep out rain and snow. The original containers will be used elsewhere in town where they are protected from the elements.

E-Waste day was a success with 356 vehicles flowing smoothly through public works, where the driver remained in the car as attendants helped out, filling a tractor trailer from UniWaste. The meeting adjourned at 8:28 P.M.

The next meeting will be held on **November 20th, 2008 at 7 P.M.** in the Public Works Building.

