

Cape Elizabeth, Maine Recycling Committee  
Minutes of October 22, 2009 meeting

Members present: Mary Brock, David Ernst, Jennifer Hansen, Mike Pulsifer

Members absent: John Kane, Bill Wadman, Greg Walsh (all excused)

Administration: Bob Malley, Director of Public Works

Meeting was called to order by Jennifer at 7:00pm. Motion to approve the September 24 minutes made by Mike and seconded by Mary, approved by all.

Cape's recycling numbers for September were again stable at 28.2%, comparing favorably with other towns who do not have curbside pickup, and even better than some towns who do.

Issues with the Swap Shop were again discussed, particularly those dealing with the same handful of people who spend a large amount of time there collecting items as soon as they are dropped off. This has made patronage of the shop uncomfortable for some citizens, and a letter outlining these issues with some possible solutions will be sent to Mike McGovern.

Bob informed us that the new educator at the recycling center has resigned since she is moving out of state. Her hours will be assumed for now by the part-time attendant, Peter.

Greg will do the next article for the Courier for Maine Recycles Week, November 8-14. RC members will be present in shifts at the recycling center on Saturday, Nov. 14, for several hours promoting recycling. They will be giving out 'Cape Recycles' bags left over from the CELT festival as prizes to recognize those residents who appear to be doing a stellar job at recycling.

Mike obtained recycling posters from the ME State Planning Office, and these will be displayed during this same week in the schools, at the town hall, library, and possibly at some local businesses.

Efforts to promote recycling in the schools continue. Jennifer and Mike met recently with the high school principal, Jeff Shed, to discuss these efforts, and report that he continues to be supportive. Missy Labbe from **ecomaine** will be coming to speak with the school faculty soon to further recycling education and efforts.

Bob presented some data on school recycling numbers, noting that the recycling program at the schools has become more user-friendly, but there is still plenty of room for improvement. Some of the problem has to do with the large amount of food waste, a heavy item, especially in the middle school. Ideas for solutions were discussed, starting with a possible meeting with the middle school principal.

There were no other items for discussion, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:11pm.

There will not be a meeting in November, and due to the Nov/Dec holidays, the next meeting will be a combination Nov/Dec meeting, on Thursday, December 10, 2009 at 7pm in the Public Works Building.

Respectfully submitted, David Ernst, secretary.