

Cape Elizabeth, Maine – Recycling Committee
Minutes of April 22, 2010 meeting

Members present: Mary Brock, David Ernst, Jennifer Hansen, Sharon Roberts, Greg Walsh. Members absent: John Kane, Mike Pulsifer

Administration: Bob Malley Guest: Penny Jordan

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm. The March 25 minutes were approved after a motion for same was made by Sharon and seconded by Greg.

Cape Elizabeth's recycling rate for March was 31.80%, slightly down from the two previous months. The YTD rate since July 1 is 31.02%.

Jennifer updated the committee on recycling efforts in the schools. Overall things are improving. Additional ideas for the schools include: an environmental club in the middle school; incorporating green issues into the school curriculum; asking **ecomaine** to come and make presentations in the schools; and allocating several hundred dollars of the Recycling Committee's budget toward a teacher stipend for leading student recycling and environmental efforts.

Penny Jordan reminded us that the movie "Trash" will be shown at the Town Hall on May 19, sponsored by the citizen group Cool Cape. She suggested their recycling/green efforts be coordinated with those of this committee.

It was suggested that the high school students might be interested in running a game promoting recycling/environmental issues, perhaps with a prize, during Cape Family Fun Day June 12. David will contact Sue Guerrette about this.

The bulk of the meeting was spent further discussing the Town Council's Pay Per Throw concepts with Penny Jordan. The focus was on how best to gauge where the public is now regarding this idea and how best to engage them in an educated dialogue about the pros and cons of a Pay Per Throw system. Surveys vs. a referendum were discussed, with the committee favoring a referendum in the fall. As part of this educational effort, Greg agreed to take on a series of Courier articles describing how PPT might work, including how user fees might work. All present recognized that an ongoing dialogue between citizens and those exploring PPT, along with intense educational efforts over the ensuing months, will be necessary before the town decides for or against this issue. Jennifer will work on a memo to the Town Council summarizing the committee's discussion and suggestions about this topic.

Lastly, Bob updated the committee on Swap Shop issues and the Household Hazardous Waste collection scheduled for May 8.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm. The **next meeting will be at 7 pm on Thursday, May 27**, in the Public Works building.

Respectfully submitted, David Ernst, secretary.