

RECYCLING COMMITTEE
Town of Cape Elizabeth

Minutes of the Meeting of 6 September 2012

Present: John Kane, chair, Jessica Simpson, David Ernst, William Marshall, Peter Frye, Robert Malley.

Absent: Patt Bothel, Jamie Garvin

1) The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by chair John Kane. The meeting was held in the conference room of the Public Works Building.

2) Jessica Simpson moved, seconded by Bill Marshall, that the Minutes of the 2 August 2012 meeting be approved. Two corrections were noted and made in the text, after which the motion to approve was voted and passed.

3) There was no public comment.

4) At the 2 August 2012 meeting a guest, Matthew Faulkner, of Cape Elizabeth, gave a presentation regarding carry-out plastic bags of the type used in supermarkets. He also provided the Ctee with a packet of information from various sources about the use of these bags and their various effects on the environment.

After the presentation, the Recycling Ctee agreed to have an in-depth discussion of plastic bags at its next meeting. The Ctee had a lengthy discussion about the uses of the bags and their environmental consequences. It was agreed, at the end of this discussion, that John Kane would contact Matthew Faulkner to check on efforts to date especially with the local business community, and that John Kane would contact the chair of the Cape Elizabeth Alliance for his/its

opinion of a possible initiative to limit use of these bags. John will report at the 4 October meeting on the outcome of these efforts.

5) & 6) Bob Malley reported about trends we are seeing in tonnages of both refuse and recyclables in the last year. The recycling rate computed by EcoMaine dipped to 27% in July 2012 after a high of 33% earlier in the year. The EcoMaine rate for Cape Elizabeth was 30.34% for FY 2012.

Recycling tonnage has dropped slightly among the owner members of Eco-Maine, and refuse has risen slightly during the period starting 1 July 2011 and ending on 29 February 2012. Missy Labbe at EcoMaine is putting together some trend information and data for Bob that will be shared with the Ctee at its October meeting. (Courtesy Bob M.)

7) It was suggested that an article be prepared for the CC on the plastic bag use issue but no decisions were made. Thanks to Jessica Simpson for the recently published article.

8) The compilation of the survey results by Jamie Garvin was deferred to the October meeting.

9) & 10) There were no public comments and no other business to come before the Ctee.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Next meeting 4 October 2012, same time and place.

These Minutes were approved by the Ctee at its regular meeting on 6 September 2012

Respectfully submitted,
W.H. Marshall

