

Town of Cape Elizabeth
Recycling Committee
Meeting Minutes
June 6, 2019

Present: Chair, Matthew Faulkner (MF), Jennifer MacDonald (JM), and Nicole Boucher (NB), Aubrey Miller (AM), and Tim Trachimowicz (TT)

Absent: Kara Lavender Law (KL) and Chelsea Torrey (CT)

Staff: Robert Malley (RM), Director of Public Works

Public/Guests: None Present

Call to Order: Matthew Faulkner (MF) called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Approval of April 11, 2019 Draft Meeting Minutes

The minutes were approved (5 Yes, 0 No)

Citizen Opportunity for Public Comment Not On the Agenda

There were no members of the public present.

Feedback on Removal of Town Hall Recycling Containers – Bob

RM reported that the containers were removed as scheduled on Monday, May 20th. He received a couple of phone calls from residents and the Recycling Center Attendants received some queries but other than that there has been very little organized pushback from residents. The area has been cleaned of litter and no items have been left at the rear of the parking lot. He reported that additional pulls (2x/week) have been required for the single-stream containers now that the Town Hall containers are gone. NB reported that she did not receive any negative comments on the Committee's **Facebook** (FB) page.

Feedback on HHW/E-Waste Collection Day

RM reported that approximately 400 residents participated in the program on May 11th. As usual, Supervisor James Green along with the public Works staff that worked that day did a great job of managing the event. He stated that the consolidators that package the material enjoy servicing our event because it's well organized and held inside a building. RM asked the Committee members present if they had received any comments about the event being held on Mother's Day weekend while they were distributing the survey. The event has historically been held on the 2nd Saturday in May. They stated they had received 2 or 3 comments and RM had received one call from a resident. NB will initiate a poll on the FB page to gauge public sentiment. Depending on the comments, RM recommended only moving it back one week to the first Saturday of May, which for 2020 would be May 2nd.

MF suggested the question be added to the annual survey that is handed out to participants.

RM noted that the consolidators that service the event for the town does a good job and performs the service for a lesser amount than the previous one.

Follow-up Discussion on Strawberry Festival Planning

This year's event will be held on Saturday, June 29th at the Maxwell Farm fields on Two Lights Road.

RM stated he has reached out to the event coordinator (Imogene Altnauer) to inquire about their needs for managing food-waste at the lobster bake and during the day on Saturday. They need totes for both days. RM will contact We Compost It! and have them dropped off here at Public Works.

There was a general discussion about the Committee's activities and types of prizes that could be handed out. RM reported that he has several kitchen pails, home recycling bins, and miscellaneous promotional items available. JM offered to reach out to **ecomaine** to obtain more kitchen pails.

MF asked NB if she could put together a "Doodle" poll to coordinate shifts at the Committee's tent at Strawberry Festival event on Two Lights Road on Saturday, the 29th.

Webpage and Social Media Communication Update

NB reported that the Committee's FB page has 152 "Likes" so far. She has been sharing events on the page, such as the HHW/E-Waste and Paper Shredding Event.

MF suggested having another contest on the FB page and offer a backyard compost bin as a prize.

AM asked about the success of the "Plogging" event. NB reported that the weather was poor during that week which may have discouraged participation in the event.

TT suggested having a QR code (matrix barcode) at the Strawberry Festival Committee table.

Committee Member Updates & Correspondence

MF suggested that the Committee needs to reach back out to the schools to discuss recycling efforts and logistics. He suggested that any communication should start with the PC/MS Principal.

Other Business

RM reported that the Paper Shredding event on Saturday, June 1st went well. The event generated 21 totes of shredded paper.

AM stated she was disappointed that the panel discussion scheduled for May 28th at Community Services had to be cancelled due to a lack of interest. It was suggested that a future event could be recorded for playback on the CETV channel.

There was a discussion about the amount of roadside trash along the roads in town. RM suggested an outreach event to collect trash. NB suggested an "Adopt a Highway" program might be helpful. AM asked if we can keep this as a future action item for the Committee to discuss.

NB asked about developing the informational packets about the Recycling Center for new residents. This was one of the goals of the Committee for this fiscal year. She offered to put together an outline of tasks for the Committee to consider for the next meeting.

Citizens Opportunity for Discussion of Items On the Agenda

There were no members of the public present.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:04 PM.

The next meeting/outreach event of the Committee will be held on Saturday, June 29th at the Strawberry Festival.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert C. Malley
Director of Public Works