

## Minutes

Cleaner Greener Hingham / Long Range Waste Disposal and Recycling Committee

Tuesday 3/20/19, 7:00 pm

Present: Brenda, Janice, David, Steve J (aka Stucky), Steve C, Pete

1. DPW Liaison (Randy Sylvester is not here):
  - a. Updates from the Transfer Station – Current system for recycling plastic bags keeps them out of other recycling streams, but is not ideal. Stucky will ask Steve Messenger to call Tomra and / or Trex to see about get a contract to pick up plastic bags at the Transfer Station.
  - b. Brenda will get in touch with Dan at Capital Paper to see where our recycling streams go. We are wondering where are Hingham’s recyclables being sent/processed. **Info needed** to respond to resident concerns about the recycling news. Also, Steve C will write an op ed piece, a call to action to keep recycling and to keep streams clean, reduce use if possible.
  
2. Next steps socializing/educating about the bag bylaw:
  - a. Andy went to Friends of Wampatuck meeting, went well but only 4 people there. He also presented to Hingham Republican Committee – good discussion there, shared downtown business survey results.
  - b. Brian met Joe Kelly at the Democratic Committee meeting. Joe is a diver who has pictures of what the ocean floor near Hingham looks like. Brian will set up UnderwaterHingham.com.
  - c. We discussed the new info and format for CGH webpage. Andy has access to the website and will make changes.
  - d. Taste of Hingham – discussed working with Congregational Church to make this be a zero-waste event. This would require talking to BOH, HDA, Congo Church. Janice will call Weir River Farm to see if they’ll take food waste for pigs. BOH permit says vendors must recycle as much as possible and DPW provided recycling bins in past years. True zero-waste will require more advanced planning that we have right now.
  - e. Did Katie present slides to Ed Bartholomew and Congo Church? Meet with Ed to see if they can support zero waste at Taste of Hingham.
  - f. Andy found a bag designer Rachel Leone and he will connect that woman to Christina (owner of AZ studio)
  - g. Journal articles to be submitted – as mentioned above, Steve C. will write a piece about recycling, Katie will write a piece on plastic bag bans in other towns in MA.
  - h. Hingham Anchor – Stucky will send info them about “Plastic Ocean” on 4/11.
  - i. Plans for “Plastic Ocean” on 4/11 – event is sponsored by School Green Teams in Hingham. Sarah Miller (HMS Science Teacher) will do intro, green teams from all schools are having tables, rep from New England Aquarium might be there, Andy is working on that.
  - j. Harbor Media – Andy is waiting to hear back from them.
  - k. Preparation for Town Meeting – we decided to NOT prepare an opening speech. If there is opposition, have a speech prepared, then we would have 6 minutes to present
  
3. Community Outreach/Education:
  - a. Planning for town-wide Clean Up Day 4/7, 10-2. Katie sent info to Social Media. Not sure if it was sent to HinghamAnchor.com and / or Hingham Journal. Send to sports teams,

- churches, scouts, posters around town, school green teams. Make sure everyone knows about social media #trashtag. Need to figure out specific locations to target for cleanup. 2 or 3 main spots, stop by one central location to pick up bags. Randy gave us black plastic bags – Brenda will buy white bags for recycling and plastic gloves. Steve C will work on creating a list of neighborhood associations in town to get the word out.
- b. Planning for Spring Newsletter: We need to craft a message about the current state of recycling in town and overall. Brenda will contact Capital Paper to get more info about Hingham’s recyclables and we will work on spring newsletter after town meeting.
  - c. Suggestions for recycling, waste reduction, and sustainability ideas for Green Tip of the week Facebook posts: We discussed the need for more posts about reduce / refuse. Examples are refuse a receipt. If anyone sees a good suggestion, please pass on to Brenda, Katie or Janice.
  - d. HHW Day 5/4 – is anyone available to help at PRS 9-1? Pete is not available this year. Stucky might be able to do an hour – maybe Katie, Brian, or Andy can do an hour too?
  - e. Taste of Hingham 5/18. Can Ed Bartholomew help? Janice will contact Weir River about giving food waste to pigs.
  - f. Update re demonstration boxes at Transfer Station – Stucky spoke with an Eagle Scout – project is in progress, pending approval.
4. Updates from MA DEP and SSRC: not much new from DEP. SSRC will vote next week about what SSRC Board will propose regarding their position on plastic bag bans.
5. Library Cart: we have it reserved for Monday April 1<sup>st</sup> to Sunday April 14<sup>th</sup>. Brenda suggests that info about the cleanup be on the cart from 4/1 to 4/7 and the from 4/7 to 4/14 about the Bylaw.
6. Approval of Minutes of 2/12/19 and 2/26/19 meetings – will wait on this until next meeting.

Next meeting date: April 10

Meeting adjourned 9:00  
Respectfully Submitted,  
Janice McPhillips

FOR ANDY - WEBSITE ADDITIONS:

CGH recommends adoption of “Plastic Bag Reduction and Encourage Reusable Bags Bylaw” at Town Meeting on April 22. To learn more about the rationale and about the bylaw’s provisions, [click here \(hotlink\)](#).

Add one of the images from the deck here to add visual interest AND please make sure the state map is in the version of the deck that’s posted.

To read the text of the bylaw, [click here \(hotlink\)](#).

This bylaw has received support from the following groups:

Selectmen, Advisory Board, Board of Health, League of Women Voters, Hingham Maritime Center Board, Hingham Democratic Committee, numerous businesses in downtown Hingham and Hingham Center, MA Chapter of the Sierra Club.

The Green Teams of all 6 public schools are sponsoring showing of A Plastic Ocean on Thursday April 11<sup>th</sup>, 7-8:30 at HMS Auditorium. [Click here for more info](#) OR post the PDF of Stucky's flyer.