

Minutes Cleaner Greener Hingham / Long Range Waste Disposal and Recycling Committee

Tuesday July 23, 7:00 pm, Town Hall

Present: Janice, David, Andy, Pete, Steve C, Steve J (Stucky), Maria Zade (new committee member)

1. DPW Liaison (Randy Sylvester is not here tonight):
 - a) Updates from the Transfer Station: nothing new.
 - b) Plastic Films collection at Transfer Station – Randy will talk to Steve Messenger about baling plastic bags as a trial. We can run a program when we get word from Randy that baler works and we have enough material for Trex. They require a minimum of 10(?) bales to schedule a pickup.

2. Education and Implementation of bag bylaw:
 - a) Review HMLP August Bill Insert – Janice will send to Paul Heanue. HMLP will print the flyer in color and include in paper bills and also – new – will send as an attachment to those customers who receive an electronic bill.
 - b) CGH webpage re-design progress: Andy is working on this.
 - c) Supporting BOH intern's work to contact businesses re bag bylaw implementation: Andy and Stucky will work with Tam to create a "Remember your reusable bag" sticker for businesses in town to display in windows. Andy shared the sticker that Boston is using.
 - d) Promotion of reusable bag use in town: we can do an info table at the Hingham Farmers Market on October 5 and also have the library cart reserved from Sept 1-14, will need help creating a display. Also need to update bulletin board in town hall. Steve C will write an article for the paper to be published in late September and content will also be shared with Hingham Anchor. Discussed the need to reach out to Harbor Media to ask them if they'll do a piece on this. Pete will contact Harbor Media.
 - e) Work with school PTO Green Committees re promoting reusable bags when school resumes: We will talk about this in August.

3. Community Outreach/Education:
 - a) Spring Newsletter: was published, no email blast was sent out. Andy will work on this so residents can be notified about future newsletters. Steve C suggests that we redesign newsletter, make it 1 page with 3 key points, visually appealing. He suggests a feature (maybe what's in the news or a "did you know?"), best practices and tips. Might make it more consumable by more people. Could post on FB, send to the Anchor and The Hingham Journal.
 - b) Window "don't forget your reusable bag" stickers: Stucky will do a mockup, ask Sue Sarni if Tam Doe (BOH intern) can help with this. When Stucky and Andy did their walk around town to socialize the Bag Ban in Dec 2018, 57% of businesses said they would help promote reusable bags and would be willing to put a sticker in their window. We'll get a list of businesses from Sue, but we think we need about 200 stickers. Will ask Randy if there is money in DPW to pay for this. Discussed how to give them out – could give stickers to Lynn Barclay (HDA) and she'll distribute to member businesses, maybe give them to the management company that runs the shipyard, Derby Street. Maria said she's willing to do a walk around Derby Street to distribute stickers.
 - c) Summer Newsletter: Content ideas include building a zero-waste lunch, back to school shopping, back to school and sports, waste-free trick or treat, Fall newsletter topics include holiday recycling, reusable holiday gift bags, etc.

- d) Hingham Journal article: Steve C wants to write one soon on how Hingham's recyclables collections are being used in response to recent Planet Money podcast. He'll contact Randy to get most updated info. And then, late September / early October he'll write an article about the plastic bag ban.
 - e) Facebook Green Tips: we are aiming to do 2 a month, Next one due on 7/31. Janice requests that next one be about signing to receive e-receipts. Stores like CVS and Lowes offer that. Discuss the again in August.
 - f) Street Teams: Andy's idea to get the word out about campaigns. Stucky is liaison for school green teams on plastic water bottles so he will contact Hingham Youth Football. Andy will contact Hingham Rec for info about fields, encouraging each team to do a lap around the field and pick up trash after every practice. Andy will also ask Hingham Sports Partnership and Athletic director about encouraging teams to bring a reusable water bottle to be filled from 5-gallon thermos and also to do a lap around the fields to cleanup. This needs to be part of Fall Sports Night at HHS so booster parents know about this. We need to keep track of all this and record all info for Annual Report.
 - g) Update recycling demonstration boxes at Transfer Station: Eagle Scout project by Griffin Brown, project was approved and progress is happening. He's creating 5 new boxes with a QR code that will link to a new page on CGH website that Andy will create. Content from "What Must I Recycle" document will be on CGH website. Janice will send most recent copy of that document to everyone to review. Goal is to have this project done by end of October 2019. Randy has been involved in the process with Griffin. One suggestion was to paint the boxes a different color.
 - h) Sustainability program at Hingham Community Center: Andy talked to MaryAnn Blackmur about this. We could show a movie like the Story of Stuff or the Story of Water. Andy, Maria, Janice will be involved with this, others welcome.
 - i) Farmers Market: Andy talked with Linda Luke. Farmer's Market will be at Station Street in September for Touch a Truck and Andy's idea is to do a sustainability forum the weekend of Touch a Truck, make the farmers market be a sustainability street fair of sorts. Talk to Farmers Market, HDA, Community Center, could be a neat fall event.
 - j) Plastic bag recycling at Transfer Station: Randy will ask Steve M about this, they will make a test bale and depending on what they find, we'll do an education campaign about this.
4. Committee budget: Andy will ask Selectmen and Advisory about giving our committee a budget. Use money for running campaigns. Randy said he'd donate RDP point revenue for that. We could show Plastic Ocean again. Andy bought one-time showing license for \$97 to show it spring of 2019. We could use paid ads on Facebook to run a campaign. Show a movie at Shipyard for movie series, outdoor movie series?
5. Updating Committee Goals for 2019: we discussed various topics and decided that our first priority is plastic bag ban education, next might be films and bags recycling depending on what Steve M. says about making bales of plastic bags. Could also work on limiting the number of haulers in town based on services offered. Diane Morrison tried to get info about what services were offered when she was on the committee. Andy will ask BOH if they would be willing to work on passing a regulation limiting permits to haulers that offer a bundle of services. Also need to discuss at future meetings resident requests for food waste composting. Andy asked Sue Sarni if she'd support a pilot program and she said yes. Andy's idea is to charge for a compost sticker.

6. Approval of Minutes of 6/11/19 meeting
7. New committee members: We have 3 new members and one is here tonight – Maria Zade, grew up in Hingham, moved back 2 years ago, teaches French and Spanish at HHS. We spent some time reviewing a brief history of the CGH committee. Other new committee members are Christine Nielsen and Katie Gallacher.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice McPhillips

Next meeting date: Tuesday August 6, 7pm