

## Meeting Minutes

Cleaner Greener Hingham / Long Range Waste Disposal and Recycling Committee

Thursday September 1st, 2022, 7:00 pm via Zoom

In attendance: Janice McPhillips/Maria Zade/Katie Gallacher/Mark Engel/Tony George

Apologies: Alyson Anderson

Guests: Beverley Vernon, Kate Boland (League of Women Voters)

### 1. Water Bottle Ban Bylaw and Planning

Kate Boland from Hingham's League of Women Voters (LWV) directed the committee to the LWV website on which there are directions on how to submit a citizen petition article for town meeting and other useful information. [Town-meeting-resources](#)

Randy at the DPW reported to Maria that plastic water bottles are not separated from general plastic for recycling at the TS and so it is difficult to tell exactly how much money the town spends on recycling them, but the town spent \$12,000 in the 2022 fiscal year to recycle plastic (note this does not include private haulers or recycling from HPS).

Maria reported that Hingham BoH do not want to take on the role of enforcement of the ban, but HPD are open to it.

Maria has been in touch with Lynn Barclay (Hingham Downtown Association) to meet before the public meeting.

Janice and Beverley are meeting with Dr Adams, the new Superintendent of HPS, to discuss the impact that the proposed bottle bill might have on the schools and also to encourage recycling to restart within HPS.

### **Public Meeting - Thursday 6th October 2022**

Maria confirmed that Dr Bryan James from Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute will speak on 'the fate and persistence of plastic in the ocean'. He has agreed that Harbor Media can record the presentation and we can, with his advance permission, use the clips for future promotional activities.

The committee agreed the structure for the public meeting contained in Appendix A (attached)

### **Promotion:**

- Katie will draft a physical poster and send it to Maria for review **Action: Katie** to produce and find out from Town Hall where we can print copies to put up around town.
- Social Media - **Action: Maria** to coordinate across the various town FB pages
- Anchor article - **Action: Janice** to write
- PTO newsletters - **Action: Janice** to coordinate

2. Household Hazardous Waste Day

Hingham will not be hosting this Fall so no volunteers are needed.

3. Textile and Mattress Ban Education

The ban will go into place on November 1st 2022 and will add textiles and mattresses to the list of materials banned from disposal or transport for disposal in Massachusetts. Maria has posted on social media about the SSRC pickup service for mattresses.

4. Fall Clean-Up Day

America Recycles Day is Tuesday 15th November in 2022 and so we should schedule clean-up day around this time. Katie will coordinate again with help on the day from other committee members as required. Katie will contact Brittany Minnehan, who coordinates this event for the Hingham Girl Scouts, to confirm the best date and then create and sign-up and promote this on social media. We should try to encourage participants to post photos of plastic water bottle litter to social media to promote the water bottle ban.

5. Items not reasonably anticipated 48hrs in advance

The compost survey is currently being reviewed by Art Robert (Assistant Town Administrator) who will send it out when finalized via a town email blast. Once this has been done we can promote on town social media pages.

6. Review of action items from the previous meeting

No updates.

7. Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the August meeting were not able to be approved at this time. We will vote to approve these minutes at the next meeting

Next meeting: September 13th 2022 at 7pm via Zoom

Respectfully submitted, Katie Gallacher

## Appendix A:

GOAL of session: To have participants leave thinking this is a great idea and that they can promote it

Introduction: (5 minutes - **MARIA**)

- CGH bio:
  - Who we are
  - What our charge is
  - Past successes
  - Our current initiatives - composting and plastics reduction
- We are here tonight to discuss a proposed bylaw banning the sale of plain water in single-use plastic containers aimed at reducing single use plastics in Hingham, specifically the environmental impact. **MARK**
- Why are you here tonight? What do you hope to get out of this meeting? [Write ideas on whiteboard and return back at the conclusion]

Guest Speaker: Bryan James (15-20 minutes plus questions - double check timing)

Overview of the bylaw - **MARK**

- Include list of towns (24 - source: Sustainable Practices) that have already passed this bylaw
- Opportunity for clarifying questions

Discussion (small group or whole group, depending on number of attendees) about: **KATIE**

- Positives
- Concerns
- Suggestions
- Questions

Report back to whole group (if needed) **KATIE**

Thank you and if anyone would like to help: **JANICE**

- Volunteer sign up
- Attend and promote future public engagement sessions
- Attend Select Board meeting in support of this proposed bylaw (date TBD)
- Come to Town Meeting and VOTE
- STAY IN TOUCH: [cleanergreener@hingham-ma.gov](mailto:cleanergreener@hingham-ma.gov)

Concessions: water bar, chocolate chip cookies

Promoting:

- Physical posters (Katie to design)
  - Hingham Library
  - Town Hall / Rec Center

- South Shore Sports Complex
- Red Eye?
- Schools
- Churches
- Atlantic Bagel
- REI
- Panera (Derby St)
- Chipotle (Derby St)
- Whole Foods
- Social media postings : Hingham Hub, Hingham Pinboard 3.0, Hingham Discussion Board, A Sustainable Hingham, South Shore Action, What's Up Hingham, Everything Hingham, Hingham Link
  - Maria to make a schedule
- Anchor article about meeting (Janice + Mark)
- PTO Newsletters (Janice)
- Green Teams (Maria)