

## TOWN OF KINGSTON, MA RECYCLING COMMITTEE

Minutes –March 7, 2023

Chairman Jean Landis Naumann called the in-person and online meeting to order at 9:07 AM.

Attendees: Jean Landis Naumann, David O’Connell, Gene Wyatt (Zoom)

Also in attendance was Todd Koep, MAC from DEP; Paul Basler, Superintendent of Streets, Trees and Parks; Everett Malaguti, Plymouth resident

The minutes of the February 7, 2023 meeting was approved (3-0).

The members discussed the final version of the Black Earth organics collection contract

**Voted: to send the contract to Black Earth for signature (3-0)**

Once the contract is returned signed, it will go to the Town Administrator for his signature. Jean will then work out the details on implementation.

The members discussed the various options for purchase of home collections buckets. Jean will check on prices on the state buy list, then order the buckets and lids.

**Voted: to authorize purchase of 100 3.5 gallon collection buckets and screw-on lids from Uline for a total not to exceed \$1,500.**

The members discussed how to publicize this pilot and encourage residents to participate. Black Earth has provided many handouts and Paul will have copies made.

The members discussed how to evaluate the results of the pilot in order to determine whether or not to make the organics collection permanent.

The members discussed a 1-day Swap event at the Recycling and Disposal Center. June 3 was selected with June 4 as a rain date. Hours will be 9:00 am – 3:00 pm to allow for set-up and clean-up. Jean will provide a pop-up canopy for the receiving table. There will be tables for children’s items, books, household goods, and sports equipment. Each item will need to be approved before it goes on the table. Committee members and volunteers will staff the event. Gene offered to post the event on Facebook and solicit volunteers. Publicity was discussed. Jean will make labels for the tables and Paul will have them laminated.

The old Swap Shop trailer will be cleaned out on June 1 and 2. Usable items will be added to the 1-day event and the rest recycled/trashed. This will be another opportunity to promote the organics collection pilot, plastic bag ban, and solicit volunteers for a new permanent Swap Shop.

Jean thanked Paul for conducting a tour of the Recycling and Disposal Center for the Recycling Committee members to assess the current signage and determine how to improve it. Paul will locate appropriate images for signs and provide an estimate of costs for the next meeting. Members will assist with researching images that are inclusive of different cultures. Todd will provide contact information for the MAC in southeastern Massachusetts which covers New Bedford and Fall River.

Jean presented options for purchasing reusable shopping bags to support the plastic bag ban effective June 1, 2023.

**Voted: to authorize purchase of the Kelly green insulated grocery tote bag with zipper at a maximum cost of \$10,000.**

Jean reported she did provide the Health Agent with a follow-up letter to retailers regarding the plastic bag ban and those letters went out March 1. The group discussed how to educate the public on the ban.

Discussion of the compliance officer and Talking Trash webinar were deferred to the next meeting. It was agreed that the compliance officer is needed to support the Private Hauler regulations. Jean will monitor BOH agendas for the discussion of enforcement by the Health Agent.

Jean asked Paul about some of the responses to the Recycling and Solid Waste Survey submitted to DEP. He was assisted by Todd and Claire on the responses.

Jean and Paul reviewed the information from the March 1 SSRC meeting:

- Tania Keebler, Recolor Paints, spoke about partnering with SSRC communities. Her company is based in Hanover and have 1200 venues where they sell 6,000 gallons of paint each year. If a community wishes to have a paint shed, it must be winterized so the paint does not freeze. They have also collected paint at HHW events in Hanover and on Cape Cod. In Newton, they held a stand-alone event. There are costs for each event per pound as well as set up fees.
- Claire mentioned that the SSRC is partnering with the Plymouth County Mosquito Control to hold a tire collection event in May
- Claire provided an update on the possibility of the SSRC operating a HHW depot due to the difficulty she is having getting vendors and scheduling collection dates. Hanover town officials have expressed an interest in hosting the depot. As distance to the depot may be an issue for some residents, Kingston and Middleboro may do stand-alone events. She reminded the members that she will need staffing help from the member towns as well as assistance working on a grant request (budgeting, staffing, resources, use of RDP grant money). She is hoping to have this up and running in the next 2 fiscal years. The issue of traffic is resolved with pre-registration by attendees.
- Claire discussed the upcoming 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of SSRC and said there is a committee working on this. The target date is May 2023. SSRC will cover the cost of 3 participants from each town and there will be a cost for additional attendees. Planned is a luncheon with a guest speaker (yet to be determined).
- Todd asked that member towns be sure to have links to these on their web sites by June 1: Beyond the Bin, Encyclopedia Widget, and Recycle Smart.
- Todd reported he asked DEP to issue the grant guidelines as early as possible, rather than after the grant period opens. Claire stated her research shows most people get their recycling information from town web sites.
- Other assistance to towns: Claire has recorded PSAs on WATD that will be aired frequently. She also recommends placing required recycling messages on the LED sign boards at transfer

stations. Todd recommends having an active Recycling Committee (he attends Kingston's meetings and says they do a great job). Claire pointed at that the SSRC Newsletter she does monthly has 1500 subscribers. She also asked members to be sure they advertise the availability of home composting bins (at a subsidized rate) and the link to "how to compost" videos (link previously sent out). <https://youtu.be/yj9hUB6d-U0>

- Claire recommended that all review the SSRC News.
- She reported that a new HHW Supervisor had been hired, an almost-retiree from Cohasset, Jay McKelvey.
- Claire mentioned the following mattress collection event:



**South Shore Recycling Cooperative  
and HandUp Mattress Recycling  
team up for a Curbside Mattress Pickup**



Complete mattress and box spring  
recycling service for a fee of \$50/unit\*  
includes pickup at your home on  
**Wed., March 29 in:**

**Abington, Cohasset, Duxbury,  
East Bridgewater, Hanover, Hanson,  
Hingham, Hull, Kingston, Middleboro,  
Pembroke, Rockland, and Scituate**

\* A mattress and box spring = 2 units

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Jean reported balances of \$26,192 in RDP grants and \$4,723 in SEMASS grants. The upcoming expenses for the Plastic Bag Ban implementation and Organics Collection pilot will utilize much of these funds.

Jean reported she had a meeting with Paul to discuss how best to promote the services available to residents at the Recycling and Disposal Center (RDC) and compare rates with private haulers. This will be coordinated with the new cycle of sticker purchases beginning June 1. Jean may also contact PACTV about doing an updated video of the services available at the RDC.

The next meeting will be in-person and on-line on April 4, 2023 at 9:00 AM. Future meetings will be held on the first Tuesday of each month whenever possible.

The meeting adjourned at 10:55 AM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jean Landis Naumann