


<p><b>Members Present</b>                  Karen Willis                  Kristin Champagne                  Lee Williams                  Rebecca Gore</p>	<p><b>Members Absent</b>                  Norm Eisenmann                  Becky Soderman</p> <hr/> <p><b>Guests Present</b>                  Jennifer Yu (CHS Eco Club)                  (remote, left at 6:12 p.m.)                   Debbie Tait (remote)                   Tamar (remote, left at 7:00 p.m.)</p>	
<p><b>Sustainability Manager Present</b>                  Chris Haley (remote)</p>		

**Call to Order.**

The Committee meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m.

**Assign Recorder of New Action Items**

Karen volunteered to record the action items.

**Review and Approve Meeting Minutes – March 2023**

The 2-March-2023 meeting minutes were reviewed and approved.

**Eco Club Input**

- Speakers are coming to visit McCarthy School to talk about composting. Information is available on the Chelmsford website.
- Four students have volunteered for Household Hazardous Waste Day.
- A poster is being worked on for their table at the Earth Day Fair.
- 20+ student have volunteered to help clean up around school as part of the Town wide cleanup. They have requested 55 bags and 55 pairs of gloves be provided. The cleanup will be on Tues April 18<sup>th</sup> during school break.
- Grant for high school organics program was submitted last week and is in the review process.

**Sustainability Manager Update**

Chris spoke with Black Earth regarding a weekly pickup program. Trying to kick it off in July.

Meeting with liquor stores (4 stores showed up)- instead of banning nips the discussion went to clean up. Just conversations not major solutions.

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Should the Committee endorse the bottle ban?

Rebecca asked if Chris spoke to anyone regarding Styrofoam. - One person picks up the foam for picture frames.

Proposed ban on incandescent light bulbs. Starting in August we will not be able to buy them. Only LEDs will be sold.

TONNAGE TOTALS for February 2023

Textile recycling (Formerly Pink Bags)	??	Pounds
Utec Mattress*	78	items
Recycling	223.27	tons
Compost from CHS	2.25	tons
Batteries		tons
Trash	633.83	tons

\*Using a weight of 60 pounds per item in recycling % calculations

See Attachment 2 for previous tonnages.

ITEMS SOLD IN 2022 and 2023

	2022	2023
Rain Barrels	53	76
Compost Bins	73	104
Mesh Bases	41	71
Compost Turner	28	55
Kitchen Collector	28	33

Notes:

- Can we buy some trash pickers uppers (Reacher Grabber Tools) for the library to loan out to people? Inquiry made by resident if there was a trash picker upper available. Ask Chris if we can use grant money.
- Expecting a large crowd on Household Hazardous Waste Day.
- On Earth Day, Rebecca will be helping Lee. They will print and hand out bookmarks that Tamar provided. Lee will bring a compost bin and the usual table.

Old Business

Recent and Upcoming Events

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EVENT	DATE(S)	TIME	LOCATION
Farmers Market Table	26-Nov-2022	<b>COMPLETE</b>	Maxwell's
Farmers Market Table (Lee and Rebecca)	7-Jan-2023	<b>COMPLETE</b> Discussions on Pink Bags, and the App.	Maxwell's
String Lights Collection	Until 15-January.  Until 30-January ONLY at the DPW	Collected about 100 pounds to date.	at the Library, DPW, and Sr. Center
Compost Bin Pickup (Need volunteers)	25-March-2023	<b>COMPLETE</b>	DPW Yard
Bulb/Battery Collection	5-April-2023	<b>COMPLETE</b>	Bulb Shed behind Town Hall
Household Hazardous Waste Day (need volunteers)	22-April-2023	9 a.m. to 1 p.m.	DPW Yard
Earth Day Fair (Need volunteers)	22-April-2023	1 p.m. to 4 p.m.	Library (Lee and Rebecca)
Town wide Cleanup When residents pick up bags, give a sheet asking questions on the cleanup.	15-April-2023 to 23- April-2023	Daylight hours	
Bulb/Battery Collection	3-May-2023	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	Bulb Shed behind Town Hall
Paper Shredding (Need volunteers)	6-May-2023	9 a.m. to 1 p.m.	DPW Yard
Leaf Drop-off (Need volunteers)	13-May-2023	9 a.m. to 1 p.m.	DPW Yard
Brush Drop-off (Need volunteers)	13-May-2023	9 a.m. to 1 p.m.	Community Tree
Bulb/Battery Collection	7-June-2023	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	Bulb Shed behind Town Hall

Publicity/website Update

The Committee website contact form has had several questions submitted this month. Norm and Chris answered the below questions:

1. Hello,  
I am following up on my question of the proper way of recycling an expired emergency oxygen tank. The company that it was bought from does not supply oxygen tanks at all anymore and will not take it back.  
Hope you can help me.  
  
Thank you, (3/13)
2. Hello,  
I work for a company called Bark, connecting customers in need with businesses that can help.

A new client in Chelmsford, CM1 came to Bark to **find a Waste Removal Specialist**.

W Pietrzak, Chelmsford, CM1 (3/18)

3. Eva is looking for Waste Removal Specialists in Clacton-on-Sea (politely replied our website is for Chelmsford Massachusetts USA) (3/22)

4. Hello there,

Giving your home a fresh new look can have a significant impact on your mood. It can also serve as a source of motivation and inspiration.

The pandemic had us all cooped up inside our homes for so long that I believe it's time for some redecorating. Wouldn't it be nice to see some new colors, shapes, and designs?

I suspect I'm not the only one who feels this way, so I'm compiling a list of ideas for revitalizing and refreshing your home. Would you be interested in having me write this piece for you to publish on your website? If you like the article, you can have it for free. I'd love to be your guest blogger!

Share your thoughts with me, and thanks for your time today! (3/22)

5. Dawn is looking for Waste Removal Specialists in Westcliff-On-Sea, SSO (same reply) (3/25)

6. Hello,

I live at 339 Wellman Ave and on March 27th 2023 a large part of my recycling wasn't picked but my neighbors was. It was out but the curb clearly labeled. Is there anything I can do to get this picked up or do I have to wait 2 weeks to have it picked up? (Chris arranged to have the material picked up the next day.) (3/27)

7. Hi there,

Thanks for getting in touch.

As requested, we've stopped any further emails being sent to you (from the UK)

If you're interested in joining Bark as a professional in the future please do let us know and we'll be happy to help. (3/28)

8. Suchithra is looking for Waste Removal Specialists in Chelmsford CM1 (4/3)

Lee has been updating the website.

Lee got a rave review on recycling app on election day while working the polls.

Bags to benches: Bench is at the DPW pending Town Manager's approval on location-

Conflict of Interest Training

Due 31-March

Review of Open Action Items

DATE	OWNER	ACTION	DUE DATE
1-Sep-22	Rebecca	Rebecca will speak at the Garden Club's 6-June-2023 meeting.	6-Jun-23
5-Jan-23	Kristin	Status of the Bags to Benches bench	5-Jan-23

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DATE	OWNER	ACTION	DUE DATE
2-Feb-23	Chris	Contact Simple recycling regarding that the Ap does not work on phones	COMPLETE
2-Feb-23	Lee	Drop off string lights at DPW	COMPLETE
2-Feb-23	Karen	Advertise compost bin sale	COMPLETE
2-Feb-23	Chris	Check on yellow bags	COMPLETE
2-Feb-23	Lee	Draft response to survey	COMPLETE
2-Mar-23	Lee	Send the volunteer needs for HHW and Earth Day Fair to Somi	COMPLETE
2-Mar-23	Norm	Determine volunteers needed for HHW and let Lee know	COMPLETE
2-Mar-23	Norm	Stake out the location for the 2 <sup>nd</sup> shed.	15-Mar-23
2-Mar-23	Lee	Create flyer for Town Wide Clean	COMPLETE
2-Mar-23	Becky	Contact Keep Mass Beautiful	COMPLETE
2-Mar-23	Becky	Create handout with instructions with responding to the cleanup, how many bags filled, how many people hours spent, send a photo,	24-Mar-23
2-Mar-23	Karen	Send old flyer to Lee and Becky	COMPLETE
2-Mar-23	Rebecca	Send old flyer to Lee and Becky	COMPLETE
2-Mar-23	Everyone	Look for areas of Town that need cleanup	6-April-23
2-Mar-23	Lee	Complete Conflict Training	COMPLETE
2-Mar-23	Kristin	Complete Conflict Training	COMPLETE
2-Mar-23	Becky	Complete Conflict Training	31-Mar-23
2-Mar-23	Chris	Setup meeting with Lee and the senior center management. --- (Monday 10:30am April 10 <sup>th</sup> )	COMPLETE
2-Mar-23	Chris	Contact Acton about the Polystyrene collection.	COMPLETE
2-Mar-23	Everyone	Rain barrel collection volunteers	COMPLETE
2-Mar-23	Kristin	Secretary for April meeting	COMPLETE
4-Apr-23	Lee	Send town wide cleanup flyer to schools and churches	15-Apr-23
4-Apr-23	Karen	Everyone sends streets that need trash pickup for town wide cleanup day	15-Apr-23
4-Apr-23	Lee	What can we do as the Recycling Committee to support a bottle ban or any other cause	4-May-23
4-Apr-23	Chris	Can we get trash picker uppers (Reacher Grabber Tools) (seems very unsanitary for the library).	15-Apr-23
4-Apr-23	Karen	email norm about Household Hazardous Waste Day	15-Apr-23
4-Apr-23	Lee	Work with the Sr Center on potential repair café dates that can be added to the Committee's next agenda.	4-May-23
4-Apr-23	Chris	Work on draft of annual town flyer then send it to the Committee to review and suggest edits	1-Jun-23

Review of 2021-2022 Goals and Long-Term Goals

See Attachment 1 for updated goals.

**New Business**

**OPEN MEETING LAW**

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On March 29, 2023, Governor Healey signed into law a supplemental budget bill which, among other things, extends the temporary provisions pertaining to the Open Meeting Law to March 31, 2025. Specifically, this further extension allows public bodies to continue holding meetings remotely without a quorum of the public body physically present at a meeting location, and to provide "adequate, alternative" access to remote meetings. The language does not make any substantive changes to the Open Meeting Law other than extending the expiration date of the temporary provisions regarding remote meetings from March 31, 2023 to March 31, 2025.

Additional guidance on holding remote and hybrid meetings is available on the [Attorney General's website](#).

In partnership,  
The Attorney General's Division of Open Government

**Open Discussion**

**Better Bottle Bill**

**Trash Tonnages Year-to-Date (July 2022 through February 2023)**

Comparisons of the current (FY23) and the previous 3 years.

FY23	6053.33 tons
FY22	7195.63 tons
FY21	7505.78 tons
FY20	7111.6 tons

**Review New Action Items**

Completed items were updated and new items were added to the Action Item List

**Next Scheduled Meeting**

4-May-2023 at 6:00 p.m. is the next meeting. It will be held at the Town Hall at 50 Billerica Rd. Room 200 with the option of remote attendance.

**Motion to Adjourn.**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

**Attachments**

1. 2021-2022 Long-Term Goals
2. FY 2020, 2021, 2022, and 2023 Trash and Recycling Tonnages

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Review of 2021-2022 Goals and Long-Term Goals

**Mission Statement:**

The Chelmsford Recycling Committee is dedicated to reducing the volume of solid waste generated in the town of Chelmsford. The committee strives to promote waste reduction, reuse, recycling, repairing, and composting among the residents, businesses, and institutions in the town of Chelmsford.

Prior to June 2023	Beyond June 2023	Recycling Committee Goals	Committee Member Taking Lead
		<b>EDUCATION/AWARENESS</b>	
X		Tour Covanta burn facility (possibly May or June)	Chris
X		Tour Black Earth Composting facility (possibly May or June)	Chris
	X	Tour E.L. Harvey Transfer Station and MRF	Chris
X		Tour Complete Recycling Solutions (possibly May or June)	Chris
		<b>REDUCE WASTE</b>	
	X	Plastic Free July Could be a focus of the 4 <sup>th</sup> of July table	
		<b>RE-USE/REPAIR</b>	
	X	Repair Cafés Three events/year, post-pandemic (Eco Club participation?) Hire a company to bring in parts and run the repair café? (Consider a September date and a location.) (Set up meeting with Chris, Lee and Sr Center Management)	Lee
		<b>RECYCLE-RESIDENTIAL/TOWN RECYCLING</b>	
X		Multi-vendor recycling event (shredding, electronics, tires, etc.) The Zero Waste Day.	Karen
	X	Open the Bulb Shed on a Saturday	Norm
		<b>COMPOST</b>	
X		Organics curbside pickup: Town request for bids; residents sign up and pay individually. Karen has information from previous years.	Chris
	X	Organics Day with Black Earth	
	X	Worm Composting	

**Recent Recycling Tonnages**

<b>FY2023</b>	<b>July 2022</b>	August 2022	Sept 2022	Oct 2022	Nov 2022	Dec 2022	Jan 2023	Feb 2023	Mar 2023	April 2023	May 2023	June 2023
Textile Recycle (tons)	0.696	0.992	0.87	0.87	1.03	0.51	1.725					
Recycling (tons)	273.07	273.42	193.99	265.95	282.94	290.22	309.32	223.27				
FY23 YTD (tons)	273.07	546.49	740.48	1006.43	1289.37	1579.59	1888.91	2112.18				
Mattresses/Box Springs (units)	78	92	82	80	88	76	76					
Weight (tons)	2.34	2.76	2.46	2.40	2.64	2.28	2.28					
CHS Compost				2.25	2.25	2	2.25	2.25				
Batteries		0.12		0.41								
Trash (tons)	721.29	822.24	801.64	731.69	804.93	768.9	768.81	633.83				
FY23 YTD (tons)	721.29	1543.53	2345.17	3076.86	3881.79	4650.69	5419.5	6053.33				
% Recycled	27.4%	24.9%	19.4%	26.5%	25.9%	27.3%	28.5%					
% Diverted	27.7%	25.2%	19.8%	26.9%	26.2%	27.5%	28.9%					

<b>FY2022</b>	<b>July 2021</b>	August 2021	Sept 2021	Oct 2021	Nov 2021	Dec 2021	Jan 2022	Feb 2022	Mar 2022	April 2022	May 2022	<b>June 2022</b>
Textile Recycle (tons)	0.58	0.85	0.51	2.1725	2.8305	1.4455	1.9085	1.383	1.9135	2.1865	0.5405	0.714
Recycling (tons)	289.14	268.32	289.89	263.59	294.1	321.55	289.68	227.6	273.06	244.24	235.39	317.8
FY22 YTD (tons)	289.14	557.46	847.35	1110.94	1405.04	1726.59	2016.27	2243.87	2517.13	2761.37	2996.76	<b>3314.56</b>
Mattresses/Box Springs (units)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	51	52	85	41	32	66	72	90
Weight (tons)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	1.53	1.56	2.55	1.23	0.96	2.19	2.16	2.7
Batteries									0.59	0.48		0.41
Trash (tons)	899.43	981.09	967.47	852.73	881.83	951.81	877.7	783.57	967.38	1009.78	833.66	1010.36
FY22 YTD (tons)	899.43	1880.52	2847.99	3700.72	4582.55	5534.36	6412.06	7195.63	8163.01	9172.79	10006.45	<b>11016.81</b>
% Recycled	24.3%	21.5%	23.0%	23.6%	25.0%	25.2%	24.7%	22.5%	22.0%	19.4%	22.0%	23.9%
% Diverted	24.4%	21.5%	23.1%	23.8%	25.2%	25.4%	25.1%	22.7%	22.2%	19.8%	22.2%	24.1%

YTD = Year-to-Date



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<b>FY2021</b>	<b>July 2020</b>	August 2020	Sept 2020	Oct 2020	Nov 2020	Dec 2020	Jan 2021	Feb 2021	Mar 2021	April 2021	May 2021	<b>June 2021</b>
Textile Recycle (tons)	6.6485	5.712	6.414	5.803	4.8885	4.5085	5.78	2.74	5.45	6.28	4.78	1.54
Recycling (tons)	294.9	269.52	310.3	280.32	304.11	329.44	266.77	235.32	292.95	279.82	262.82	297.4
FY21 YTD (tons)	294.9	564.42	874.72	1155	1459.2	1788.6	2055.36	2290.68	2583.63	2863.45	3126.27	<b>3423.67</b>
Mattresses/Box Springs (units)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Weight (tons)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Trash (tons)	1060.38	887.94	967.24	1039.83	961.2	992.68	854.86	741.65	915.62	912.92	860.7	924.35
FY21 YTD Trash (tons)	1060.38	1948.3	2915.6	3955.4	4916.6	5909.3	6764.13	7505.78	5421.4	9334.32	10195.02	<b>11119.37</b>
% Recycled	21.7%	23.2%	24.2%	21.1%	23.9%	24.8%	23.7%	24.0%	24.1%	23.3%	23.3%	24.3%
% Diverted	22.1%	23.7%	24.7%	21.6%	24.3%	25.2%	24.2%	24.3%	24.6%	23.9%	23.7%	24.4%

<b>FY2020</b>	<b>July 2019</b>	August 2019	Sept 2019	Oct 2019	Nov 2019	Dec 2019	Jan 2020	Feb 2020	Mar 2020	April 2020	May 2020	<b>June 2020</b>
Textile Recycle (tons)	4.29	4.449	3.672	4.758	6.415	3.779	0	0	3.838	1.194	7.752	6.214
Recycling (tons)	264.1	254.5	240.7	274.5	250.95	302.9	300.2	226.7	247.2	283.3	288.1	307.01
FY20 YTD Recycling (tons)	264.1	518.5	759.2	1033.7	1284.7	1587.5	1887.8	2114.5	2361.7	2645.0	2933.1	<b>3240.1</b>
Mattresses/Box Springs (units)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Weight (tons)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Trash (tons)	990.2	888.98	877.02	981.93	872.5	903.81	886.25	710.89	822.6	920.75	943.43	990.23
FY20 YTD Trash (tons)	990.2	1879.2	2756.2	3738.2	4610.7	5514.5	6400.7	7111.6	7934.2	8855.0	9798.4	<b>10788.6</b>
% Recycled	21.0%	22.2%	21.5%	21.8%	22.2%	25.0%	25.3%	24.2%	23.0%	23.5%	23.2%	23.6%
% Diverted	21.3%	22.6%	21.8%	22.1%	22.8%	25.3%	25.3%	24.2%	23.4%	23.6%	23.9%	24.0%

**Fiscal Year Totals**

		<b>FY 2022</b>	<b>FY 2021</b>	<b>FY 2020</b>	<b>FY 2019</b>
Textile Recycle (tons)		17.0395 ↓	60.5465 ↑	46.179 ↑	26.91 *
Recycling (tons)		3,314.56 ↓	3,423.67 ↑	3,240.1↑	3171.43
Mattresses/Box Springs Weight (tons)		14.67 **	N/A	N/A	N/A
Trash (tons)		11,016.81	11,119.37	10,788.6	10632.1
% Recycled		23.1% ↓	23.4% ↑	23.0% ↑	22.9%
% Diverted		23.3% ↓	23.9% ↑	23.3% ↑	23.1%

\* Textile Program started January 2019

\*\* Mattress Program started November 2021