

Recycling Meeting Minutes 5-August-2021 @ 6:00 P.M. @ DPW
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Members Present Becky Soderman Betty Mattson Karen Willis Lee Williams Norm Eisenmann Rebecca Gore	Members Absent None	Guests Present None
Sustainability Manager Present Melissa Joyce		

Call to Order.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

Review and Approve Meeting Minutes – July 2021

The 8-July-2021 meeting minutes were reviewed and approved by unanimous vote.

RECEIVED
2021-09-10
10:16 AM

Eco Club Input

NONE

TOWN OF
CHELMSFORD
PATRICIA E. DZURIS
TOWN CLERK

Sustainability Manager Update – Melissa Joyce

TONNAGE TOTALS for June 2021

Textile recycling (Formerly Pink Bags)	3073	pounds
Recycling	297.4	tons
Trash	924.35	tons

The costs at the incinerator have increased from \$74/ton to \$90/ton as required by the contract.

Melissa is working on the mattress recycling incentive program. We are required to implement the program by 1-November-2021 and the program ends 31-Oct-2022. Melissa is working with UTEC for scheduling and pickups.

The Commonwealth awarded the Town approximately \$15/mattress to pay for the recycling portion of the process. The total cost is ~\$50 each, which includes the cost of scheduling, hauling, and recycling per piece. The Town will partially subsidize the scheduling and transportation costs, but the resident will be required to pay the difference. Chelmsford may start at \$30 each (Lowell charges \$27 each) and increase that portion until the mattress waste ban is fully in affect. We need to consider what publicity we will use.

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The Committee discussed the need for more publicity on the changes to the Textile Recycling. Several members mentioned seeing pink bags next to recycling bins. It seems that residents do not realize that they need to contact Simple Recycling to schedule textile pickups. The Town/Committee did use Facebook, The Patch, and Action Unlimited. The Committee will consider using The Lowell Sun, the Eagle Independent, the Library bulletin board, and consider electronic signs.

The former Energy Conservation Committee is changing to the new Town Sustainability Committee. It will be a nine-person committee and the applications are now open.

Fluorescent Bulb Shed

53 customers at the August Bulb Shed Day staffed by Betty, Lee, Norm, and Melissa.

Recent Recycling Tonnages

	Feb 2021	Mar 2021	April 2021	May 2021	June 2021	July 2021	Aug 2021	Sept 2021	Oct 2021
# Of Collection Days in the month	20	23	22	20	23				
Textile Recycling (tons)	2.74	5.45	6.28	4.78	1.54				
General Recycling (tons)	235.32	292.95	279.82	262.82	297.4				
Trash (tons)	741.65	915.62	912.92	860.7	924.35				
% Recycled	24.0%	24.1%	23.3%	23.3%	24.3%				
% Diverted including textile recycling	24.3%	24.6%	23.9%	23.7%	24.4%				

OTHER MATTERS OF INTEREST

None

Old Business

Recent and Upcoming Events

EVENT	DATE(S)	TIME	LOCATION
June Bulb Shed Day	2-June	COMPLETE	Behind Town Hall

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EVENT	DATE(S)	TIME	LOCATION
~45 residents participated			
July Bulb Shed Day ~62 residents participated	7-July	COMPLETE	Behind Town Hall
August Bulb Shed Day ~53 residents participated	4-August	COMPLETE	Behind Town Hall
September Bulb Shed Day	1-September	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	Behind Town Hall
October Bulb Shed Day	6-October	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	Behind Town Hall
Paper Shredding	9-October	9 a.m. to 1 p.m.	DPW on Alpha Road
Household Hazardous Waste	30-October	9 a.m. to 1 p.m.	DPW on Alpha Road
November Bulb Shed Day	3-November	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	Behind Town Hall
Leaf Drop-off	20-November	9 a.m. to 1 p.m.	DPW on Alpha Road
Brush Drop-off	20-November	9 a.m. to 1 p.m.	Community Tree

Publicity/website Update

Discussed more publicity on the change to the textile program.

Karen will meet with a graphic artist next week on publicity for the Committee.

The website needs some updating.

Composting.

The results of the survey:

575 residents responded to the survey.

335 residents expressed interest.

The Town may be willing to partially subsidize the program.

Some of the vendors provide the bucket.

Review of Open Action Items

Date	Owner	Action	Due Date
5-Nov-20	Lee	Need to order bags to hand out at the Farmers Market. (The last order was from Bullet Brands and cost \$2.60/bag for 500 bags, made from recycled materials.) Lee will investigate. Can also purchase virgin cotton bags or recycled plastic bags. Will ask for samples to review the quality. Bullet Brands will send a couple of samples.	2-Sept-21

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Date	Owner	Action	Due Date
4-Feb-21	Lee Karen Rebecca	Organics curbside pickup: Town request for bids; residents sign up and pay individually. Offbeet is one possibility. Karen has information from previous years.	5-Sept -21
4-Feb-21	Lee Karen Rebecca	Organics drop-off: Promote with sale of compost bins in the spring, free compost pails? Karen spoke to Phil Jones, and he would not be interested due to smells and vermin. A survey has been developed and will be sent to the committee for beta testing. The Commonwealth is looking for sites, but not a lot of folks support the idea to have a 4x4 metal bin for the compost.	5-Sept -21
	Melissa Karen	Order tax bill inserts	5-Sept-21
3-June-21	Karen	Purchase a banner for a booth, such as for a 4 th of July in 2022 and beyond. Maybe use Tiger Press? Maybe decide upon an image for the committee.	1-Oct-21
7-July-21	Lee	Need to prepare a report of our accomplishments and goals by mid-august.	15-Aug-21
7-July-21	Norm	Send memo to Town Clerk providing the name of the newly elected chairperson of the committee.	Complete
7-July-21	Melissa	Discuss with School Superintendent about using a school parking lot for a Zero Waste Day event. -It is possible. -Melissa has access to an on-line tool for scheduling. -McCarthy will be easier to schedule than CHS.	Complete
5-Aug-21	Norm	Notify the Town Manager of vote to reduce size of the Committee to 7 persons.	Complete
5-Aug-21	Norm	Submit the approved July meeting minutes to the Town Clerk.	Complete
5-Aug-21	Norm	Update the website with the Fall drop-off events	1-Sept-21

Review of 2021-2022 Goals and Long-Term Goals

See Attachment 1 for updated goals.

New Business

Committee Membership

The Committee voted unanimously to reduce the Committee size to 7 members, not including the Sustainability Manager. There is currently one vacancy.

Committee Annual Report

The Committee reviewed the draft annual report. The FY 2020 Annual Report was used as an example of Committee reports. <https://archives.lib.state.ma.us/handle/2452/841164>

Open Discussion

9-September is the next meeting at 6:00 p.m. at DPW on Alpha Road

Motion to Adjourn.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Attachments

1. Review of 2020-2021 Goals and Long-Term Goals

Recycling Meeting Minutes 8-July-2021 Attachment 3
Tax Bill Insert/Handout at Drop-offs Proof Page 6 of 6

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 2022	Beyond June 2022	Recycling Committee Goals	Committee Member Taking Lead
		EDUCATION/AWARENESS	
X		Town-wide Clean-up re-imagined	
		REDUCE WASTE	
	X	Charge fee for bulk items	
		RE-USE/REPAIR	
	X	Transfer station/swap shop	
	X	Promote local swap resources (Buy Nothing Chelmsford, etc.)	Betty
	X	Repair Cafés Three events/year, post-pandemic (Eco Club participation?)	
		RECYCLE-RESIDENTIAL/TOWN RECYCLING	
	X	Multi-vendor recycling event (shredding, electronics, tires, etc.) The Zero Waste Day	Karen Becky Rebecca
	X	Trash/recycling bins at parks, athletic fields	
		RECYCLE-BUSINESS RECYCLING	
	X	Advocate for Board of Health mandate for hauler permits	
	X	Plan the Implementation of hauler permits: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research how other MA municipalities have implemented business recycling programs and • Conduct a survey of Chelmsford businesses to find out what level of business recycling is going on now. Eco Club could help with either or both items.	
		COMPOST	
X		Organics curbside pickup: Town request for bids; residents sign up and pay individually. Offbeet is one possibility. Karen has information from previous years.	Lee Karen Rebecca
X		Organics drop-off: Promote with sale of compost bins in the spring, free compost pails?	Lee Karen Rebecca
	X	Setup survey of how many interested in composting.	
	X	Curbside organics	
X		Setup program for indoor composting. Consider using money to have a worm composting seminar. Have at July 4 th booth and raffle off some worm composting kits.	Lee