**Bridgton Recycling Committee Meeting Minutes**

June 9, 2022

Present: Sally Chappell(Chair), Maureen Harpell, Donna Joss, Therese Johnson, Bob McHatton(Select Board liaison, Kate Fitzcharles), Maureen McDevitt and Rachel Miller

Meeting called to order at 6:25PM

The minutes from May 12th were approved as read. Maureen Harpell made a motion to accept and Donna Joss seconded. All in favor.

**Old Business:**

Awards-The committee discussed the idea of creating an award for local businesses that followed green or sustainable business practices. Maureen Harpell suggested that we set a list of 3 or 4 objectives to be met and that we decide how often we would present an award. Committee members will present ideas for these objectives at the next meeting. Donna Joss suggested a plaque or certificate could be presented along with a mention in the Bridgton News. The free publicity would be beneficial to those businesses and would provide an incentive.

Committee name change- The committee discussed changing the committee name to *The Bridgton Recycling and Sustainability Committee.* Bob McHatton stated that a name change would most likely require a change to our charge as a committee, and will check with the BOS. Rachel Miller suggested that this name change might allow us to pursue state grants available through the state’s sustainability initiative. We will need to be aware of possible overlap with CDD. Rachel offered her expertise and we can approach Linda LaCroix as well.

Fall Festival-Bob McHatton stated that the committee could have a table at the festival. There would be educational literature on recycling and PPB, sample PPB bags, and Ecomaine give aways. Maureen McDevitt reminded us that there are recycling containers at the transfer station for event use. Bob Mchatton stated that this is part of the policy for town events under Event Rules and Regulations. Event promoters are responsible for picking up and returning the containers to the Transfer Station. Discussion followed suggesting that signs be designed as to what goes into the recycling containers, possibly as pictograms. Could we also come up with signs for these events stating “Keep Bridgton Beautiful, Please Recycle”? Bob McHatton will bring this to the board along with the committee’s recommendation for new signage at the Transfer Station. The committee is recommending larger, brighter informational signage above the recycling hopper and a sign at the entrance, “Recycling is Expected and Appreciated”.

Educational opportunities-We will have an educational table at the TS on alternating Saturdays and Sundays from 11AM-1PM at the entrance to the TS store. The committee will also have a table at the polls on Tuesday the 14th to promote PPB and recycling. Maureen McDevitt will be present from 9A-11A, Therese Johnson 11A-1P, Donna Joss 2P-4P and Maureen Harpell 4P-6P.

Sally will call Laurie Chadbourne for a table. Rachel will update the PPB fact sheet. The town will print up 50 copies of the fact sheet along with Maureen McDevitts’s BN article on what can be recycled. Sally Chappell presented the idea of t-shirts to identify committee members at events. We could reach out to Chuck and Jane Hammity for their services.

Recycling Matters letters-At the last meeting Patty Howard offered to write the next letter, but was not present to confirm this. Maureen Harpell offered to write a letter about the effects of plastic pollution she witnessed in the Florida Keys, especially on sea turtles. It was suggested that she tie it into local wildlife as well and work in the topic of PPB. Sally mentioned that all committee members should be working on articles so there is a ready supply of them.

Next meeting- July 14 at 6:15PM. The meeting was adjourned at 7:501PM.