

Recycle Advisory Committee  
Bridgton, Maine

December 8, 2022

Attending:

Sally Chappell (Chairman), Kate Fitzcharles, Maureen McDevitt, Maureen Harpell and Bob McHatton (Board of Selectman liaison)

Called to order by Sally Chappell 6:25PM

Reviewed minutes of Nov 10, 2022, meeting. Approved as written.

Old Business:

1. Sandwich boards:

Discussion regarding verbiage for sandwich boards at Transfer Station as a part of the goal of increasing awareness and education for Bridgton residents.

Agreed upon:

Once monthly update based on published tonnage.

Actual tonnage of Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) and Recycling with dollar amounts and % recycling.

Bridgton Transfer Station (BTS) reported 15% recycling for October. State goal is 50%.

Maureen McDevitt has agreed to update these boards if she is in town. Otherwise, other committee members can be called upon to update.

2. Eco Maine Costs and update

Bob McHatton informed the committee that rates will be raising:

Fiscal year 2024: \$89.50/ton MSW

Fiscal year 2025: \$99.50/ton MSW

Potential ongoing increases each year onward.

Maureen McDevitt provided information on difficulty recycling paper.

Eco Maine has been offline for approximately 8 months and all of our MSW has been going with Pine Tree to a landfill.

3. Textile Recycling Options:

Therese has found information on a program [Apparelimpact.com](http://Apparelimpact.com) that works to recycle textiles through partnering with communities. She is checking on how it is

working in Cape Elizabeth. They offer site visits and can be contacted at 603-505-4774, ext: 0.

Therese will get more information and report back to the committee to consider pursuing this further.

4. Organic composting

A general discussion was held about the resistance to home composting noted in our recent Pay per Bag campaign. An option for increased composting (beyond yard waste currently composted at the BTS) is Agri-cycle energy. Located in Scarborough, Maine they provide totes or containers for compostable materials and pick them up for transfer to their facility. 1-800-850-9560.

They offer quotes. Maureen Harpell will follow up on this.

5. Trash Haulers

As a follow up to our recent PPB campaign many town residents brought up concerns over trash haulers, their annual fee (recently increased to \$100 from \$10 annually). Concerns have been raised about whether trash collected could be from outside of Bridgton. Several years ago, a new policy was implemented for licensing haulers (from the Town of Bridgton), requesting a list of customers. All agreed that the cost to the haulers is very low, and it is likely not monitored well. Kate Fitzcharles will follow up with the Town Clerk regarding this.

6. Thank you to the Bridgton News.

Sally sent a note to the owners of the Bridgton News (Wayne and Sue Rivet) to express appreciation for their support during our recent PPB campaign. We are hoping that they will continue to support our efforts at educating town residents with the goal of increasing recycling, composting, and thus decreasing MSW tonnage. Sally is working on the next Recycling Matters letter.

7. Ongoing evaluation for Recycling opportunities

Maureen McDevitt has been collecting information on companies that offer recycling including Carters (takes all baby clothes), among others.

[Terracycle.com](http://Terracycle.com)

8. Transfer Station process/screening for stickers

A general discussion regarding further concerns raised by town residents regarding folks from out of state/out of town using the transfer station was held. Agreement that the current staff is currently overwhelmed with work, but that more attention needs to be paid to sticker holders. A volunteer vs a seasonal employee for the BTS was held. Bob McHatton will discuss this with the town manager, Bob Peabody.

9. Public education/involvement

It was agreed after general discussion that ongoing involvement of the public is vital.

10. Meeting times

It was agreed that 6:15PM is an awkward time for meetings. We will try 5PM unless one of our members is unable to make that time.

10. Coordination with other town committees

Sally will invite Kevin Raday and Margaret Sanborn to see if our missions overlap and how we can best work together for our next meeting:

January 12, 2023

5P-6:30P

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen Harpell  
Recording secretary