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# Recycling Advisory Committee Meeting

Thursday, 11/19/2023 @ 5:00 PM    Bridgton Town Office Downstairs Conference Room

## Attendees

Sally Chappell (Chairperson), Kate Fitzcharles, Therese Johnson, Maureen McDevitt, Donna Joss, Maureen Harpell (virtually), and Margaret Sanborn and Kevin Raday from the Community Development Advisory Committee.

## Agenda

### Call to Order

1. Meeting called to order at 5:05 PM

### Approval of Minutes

1. Approval of minutes - Unanimous
  - a. Donna
  - b. Kate

### Coordination with Community Development Advisory Committee

1. Welcome Margaret Sanborn and Kevin Raday
  2. Committees interact and coordinate with each other creates SYNERGY
  3. They are working on a comprehensive plan
    - a. Need to widen the base
    - b. Smaller group is the Conservancy Sustainability Committee
  4. Comprehensive plan is for the next 10 years
    - a. Carrie will help us work towards this
    - b. Transfer Station should be part of Comprehensive Plan
    - c. EPA should be consulted on transformation of transfer station
    - d. Other help from Maggie, Matt, Tori and LEA
    - e. Maine Municipal Association has great information
    - f. GP Council of governments
    - g. Last 10 year plan from 2014 had no action
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## Sandwich Boards - What to include at the Transfer Station

1. Tonnage
2. \$ Amount
3. % Recycled
4. Ended up being amount of dollars such as
  - a. Trash bin - Cost \$89.50
  - b. Recycle bin - Cost \$35
  - c. Compost & Metal bin - No Cost

## Report on Textile Recycling

1. Joe Relten is the contact
2. Apparel impact
  - a. 90 towns in Maine participate
  - b. Support veterans and other nonprofits
  - c. Savings of \$23,000 on average
3. If we can get a container at the transfer station
  - a. They will empty weekly
  - b. No cost to the town
  - c. We provide the location
  - d. Will reduce our costs
4. Need to do a presentation with the select board

## Findings / Discussion on PPB with both committees

1. People don't know about compost
2. They don't know that recycling costs less than trash
3. Don't question intelligence, question their interest.
4. Transfer station staff are not helpful
5. Commercial haulers should cause outrage for depositing trash.
6. All people should pay the \$5/year fee, even if they use a trash collection service.
7. We need to be clear, precise and organized - Town did not support us
8. Therese noted that PPB went down everywhere that it was proposed

9. Need more information and education
  - a. Signage at transfer station has to be clearer
  - b. Need to have signage at entrance as well as on containers
  - c. Voting for PPB similar thinking to EPR
10. People confused by PPB - Thought it was paper bag?????

## EPR Update

1. Sally passed out information on EPR - Nothing is being done this year

## Submitting a grant to MEDEP


1. Grants only for 501(c)3 - \$ in budget for grant writer
2. Start initiative on recycle bins and compost bins
  - a. Check with state of Maine for funds
  - b. Grant writer should determine what's available to us based on our purpose
  - c. Linda came to our meeting once, Tori also came only once.
  - d. Bob was invaluable to our committee
3. Transfer station should be changed by 2024 deadline - Community Grant?

## Next Recycling Matters Letter

1. Sally has a letter regarding aluminum recycling
2. We should all have a letter ready to go

## Committee Members' Concerns and Public Comment

1. Next steps for transformation of Transfer Station
  - a. Denmark Planning Board meets once a month
    - i. Deb Brusini attends
  - b. Windham - has good information
  - c. Conservancy research group
    - i. Gather people for their own needs, not conservation
    - ii. Visit transfer stations to see what works
  - d. Grass roots

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- i. Redemption center
    - ii. Klynk - Get bags and labels from nonprofits
  2. Maureen Harpell will put together a survey monkey
  3. Maureen H. contacted Agra Recycling - No response
  4. Maureen M. - Recycling bins have not been returned to the transfer station since the Harvest Festival - Will contact Pam Ward.
  5. Lauren Roy and Susie Butler - ask to make compost bins at the vocational center to sell to people in town.
  6. Transfer Station stickers should be added to tax bill
  7. Work on the state of Maine increasing bottle deposits

### Adjournment and Set Date for Next Meeting

1. February 9th @ 5:00 PM