

## **Bridgton Recycling Committee Meeting Minutes, July 13, 2023**

*Members present: Sally Chappell (Chair), Maureen Harpell, Therese Johnson, Donna Joss, Maureen McDevitt, Rachel Miller, Jerry Walraven, Carrye Castleman-Ross (Select Board Member)*

The meeting was called to order at 5:09 PM by Sally Chappell. The June 15, 2023 minutes were approved.

Sally discussed the recent Community Development Advisory Committee meeting that she and Maureen McDevitt attended and where Sally was asked to present Kate's letter to CDAC on multi-units and dumpsters handled by commercial haulers. Town Manager Bob Peabody reminded Sally and Maureen that the Recycling Committee is an advisory one, and stated Kate's letter should've been sent to the Select Board and not CDAC. The Recycling Committee disagrees with the implication that there cannot be open channels of communication between two advisory committees.

The Select Board has called a workshop to review the operations of the transfer station for October 5<sup>th</sup>. Jerry Walraven says Oct 5<sup>th</sup> should also be about a redesign of the station. In his former town of Kingston, MA, they had gotten a \$25K grant to engineer a redesign and streamline the station. Bridgton could consider applying for an October deadline towards \$40K, with the town needing to contribute 25%. The town could hire an engineering firm, get RFPs from 3 companies, and create a 5-year plan. We should get immediate input from Forrest on what his ideal layout for the transfer station would be and his wishlist for the station. For example, we could apply for an energy efficient compactor if that were a priority.

Regarding bins for Apparel impact, Donna Joss is trying to find alternate spots for Apparel Impact. She stopped by Hannaford, but no real estate space, reached out to corporate. A Bridgton Community Center rep took down info on Apparel Impact for passage onto the manager of community center. If bins could be placed somewhere to start, the sooner the better, and then down the road at the transfer station. Members agree that we could try for one bin to be an Apparel Impact bin amongst the Salvation Army bins at the transfer station.

Regarding help at the all-day Harvest Moon Festival, Pam Ward who is managing the festival sent along a list of needs. Maureen McDevitt says they need barrels for trash & recycling, trash bags, a cigarette station, signage for where you put stuff (trash, recycle), help with monitoring, emptying, and picking up and returning of the barrels. Maureen will reshare the list of needs. Maureen also says ecomaine is coming with activities. There's potentially an ordinance that says the Select Board buys bins. Maureen Harpell suggests we have t-shirts with "recycle always" or "Bridgton recycles."

Recycling in churches and other public venues was raised. Sally handed out Bridgton church guidelines.

Returning to the subject of the October 5<sup>th</sup> meeting, the committee asked: what do we need to do to prepare for the meeting? The call for the meeting in part stems from the recycling committee recommending the expansion of recycling options at the transfer station. The committee is considering inviting representatives from Apparel Impact and Agricycle. Should we prepare a presentation ourselves? The goals are to make the transfer station more efficient, support the town financially, and consider more recycling options.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 6:15 PM.

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*Submitted by Rachel Miller, August 8, 2023*