



MANCHESTER BY THE SEA SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes 5/2/2019 7:30 PM Town Hall

Attendees: Alison Anholt-White (chair), Melissa Flinn, Allie St. Marie, Dana Spang Menon, Carley Cooke, Su Mittermaier

Absent: Nadia Wetzler, Kyle Khani, Gary Gilbert

- 1) New members Carley, Dana and Allie welcome!!!
- 2) Minutes from 4/4/19 approved
- 3) Handed out Manchester Sustainability Committee Charge
- 4) Cape Ann Community Foundation Grant update: Su requested \$1700 from CACF as a stop gap solution to funding speakers, outreach and supplies for our committee during FY2020, until we can apply for money from Town for FY2021. If we receive the grant, we need to promote CACF sale of their (very snazzy) license plates. Future ideas: grant for recycling bins with stickers detailing what is acceptable; cigarette butt waste receptacle.
- 5) Feedback from MRF tour: Alison detailed implications for recycling. We watched video and looked at photos of her visit. Atlantic article about expense of recycling plastic so companies are making new plastic since oil is so cheap.
- 6) Recycling update: Gary's board revised. No clamshell containers. Most people aren't aware of this yet. Schedule for "house calls." We want to create clarity and avoid confusion by distributing the latest document detailing which items are Yes and which are No. Push DPW to send out a letter – definitive list and letter with \$\$ effects. Dana will try to annotate latest list and send these out to whole Town.
 - a) Need volunteer to collaborate with School Committee - elementary school is still using plastic water bottles. Sharon Erdman is School Committee chair.
 - b) Top issue signage for prominent display around town: no plastic bags in recycling!
- 7) Composting update: Andrew/Alison created and distributed flyers to encourage current users to talk about the program to their neighbors. Dana is creating a banner for the Richdale's corner. How do we improve participation? The best is neighbor to neighbor, door to door. Make a plan for this. Black Earth can track users.
 - a) Need volunteer to talk to town restaurants about composting. They don't. Black Earth would pick this up.
- 8) FaceBook page revamp: Kyle & Alison will add video from Tory, plus MRF photos, etc.
- 9) Survey update: Tabled for next meeting, when Kyle is present
- 10) Article 17 (Gary's plastics ban): Ideas for community outreach, tabled for next meeting when Gary is present
- 11) WM contract review: Discussion tabled until Nadia is present. What are we generating as waste as a town?
- 12) Upcoming events: Beth Porter talk May 9 @ 7PM @ Manchester Library: publicity, logistics. Baked goods needed. Tell 5 other people.

- 13) Future events:
 - a) Plan event in Community Center for May/June. Set date. Round Table discussion?
 - b) Suggestions for movie about recycling: Bag It. Wally.
 - c) Make an announcement at summer concerts with 1 piece of advice per week.
- 14) Other ideas to reduce waste and publicize:
 - a) Stop using commercial water bottles.
 - b) Top priorities are upping composting and increasing correct recycling and reducing plastic especially.
 - c) Dana will create "MBTS Sustainability Committee Seal of Approval."
 - d) Allie will do a table with compost bins and other Committee concepts at large public events.
 - e) Put up Recycle Smart signs around town, similar to political signs.
- 15) What will we bring to inform people about our concepts? Folding table, chairs, compost bins, recyclable materials, plenty of sheets with "OK to recycle" list.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15PM.

Next meeting dates: Thursday, June 13 at 7:30PM in Town Hall, Thursday, July 11 at 7:30PM in Town Hall.