

**Dover Recycling Committee Meeting
May 2, 2011**

Members present:
Fran (Aikman) Keene
Scott Seidman
Becky Gladstone
John O'Keefe
Matt Schmid
Amy Wilcox
Curt Pfannenstiehl

Minutes from the April 4, 2011 approved

Treasurer's Report reviewed and approved

Redeemables' Trailer at the Transfer Station:

Becky Petersen is not present to report. It is known that she has attempted to contact the D-S Swim Team, to offer the team, the month of August, to take responsibility for the trailer. The Swim Team has yet to respond to the offer. The committee decides that we will make the offer to the next team, on the waiting list, (ie. the Boys Hockey Team) if the Swim Team chooses not to participate.

A discussion ensued, re: the declining level of responsibility that the teams are willing and/or able to assume. With the awareness of this trend, the Recycling Committee has forged a relationship with the athletic directors, who encourage the team captains, coaches and team members. As well, the DRC coordinator of the monthly groups has increased his/her communication with the individual teams, via email and telephone calls. Yet, even with these measures, we continue to experience more months that participation is lacking.

The DRC will continue to probe the reasons for this change, and continue to pose new and different ways to approach the project. The members feel that it is a worthwhile endeavor, for all, giving residents a depository for their redeemable bottles and cans, affording a contribution to the town teams for which the residents care, an important model of recycling and reusing, as well as the potential for raising significant funds for school teams.

Chickering:

Waste Free Friday consists of weekly collection of: food waste (Pig Farmer picks up after each Waste Free Friday); recycling (this is not done in the cafeteria on a daily basis); and unopened food (a large cooler is taken to the Most Precious Blood Church - they take it to Dorchester Shelter or Needham Food Pantry).

Food Waste Data has been collected on Waste Free Fridays since January. We collect about 20 - 25 gallons of food waste on a given Friday, and average of 60 Stonyfield Yogurts and 90 Cheese

Sticks are collected separately to give to the Church. What's most upsetting is that on Mondays - Thursdays these yogurts and cheese sticks are thrown away - on average approximately 240 organic yogurts and 360 cheese sticks per week. If bagel lunches aren't offered each day, these numbers would decrease. Pine Hill offers bagel lunches 2x's per week. Janelle Madden in Food Services is aware of this issue and is planning to offer alternatives to the bagel lunch offerings.

Our newly-formed Chickering PTO committee for 2011-2012 school year is the Health, Wellness and Sustainability Committee, consisting of folks presently on the Nutritional Task Force and the Recycling Task Force. Detail pending.

Becky will investigate how to make Waste Free Fridays a daily routine. Road blocks are that the cafeteria is a Multi-Purpose room which needs to be used soon after the last lunch ends at 1:30. Custodian is OK w/ Fridays, not OK with a daily WFL (waste free lunch). At the very least recycling needs to be done on a daily basis; Becky to investigate easier ways to make this happen. Also being investigated are options for compostable trays, which are used at Pine Hill but not at Chickering or the Regional Schools.

Middle and High Schools:

Daily composting was halted in December due to bins being too full and complaints of flies in the HS science wing. Tammy Thornton, 7th Grade MS science teacher, is on maternity leave until the 2012-2013 school year, but is making efforts to address the problems and present more options to the administration by the end of this school year.

Sales of Rain Barrels and Composters

Discussion re: bulk sales of Rain Barrels and Composters, provided to the residents of Dover. The committee agrees that this effort would be best "marketed" during the Annual Dover Days' Fair, in the fall.

Meeting adjourned

Next Meeting: June 6th at 8am.