

Dover Recycling Committee
Minutes for Feb 11, 2014 (approved)

Present: Mike Kinchla, Chris Poulsen, Matthew Schmid, Amy Wilcox

Absent: Tracy Boehme, Savita Shukla, Becky Sommer-Petersen

Additional Attendees: Craig Hughes, Carol Lisbon, John O'Keefe

Agenda

- Approve last meeting minutes – Jan. 7, 2014
- Program/Initiative Updates
 - School Program (AW, SS)
 - DRC Mission Update (TB, MS)
 - Transfer Station (CP, MK, CH)
 - Outreach (All)
 - DRC Program (All)
- Any Other Business
 - Waste/Household, Best Practices Nearby Towns (CP)
 - Agenda Items for next meeting

I. January 7 Minutes approved.

II. Upcoming Warrant – C.Lisbon

Carol Lisbon confirmed that a place has been reserved on the upcoming Warrant should Committee choose to propose revised mission statement. Committee chose to forego this year's Warrant. All agreed that any change in town code should be summary of, rather than kick off for, Mission change decisions. Committee will take the time to fully discuss before bringing to next year's Warrant.

Productive discussion took place, exploring whether or not there is wisdom in expanding scope when recycling goals remain unmet. Group largely in favor of reprioritizing, aligning goals with those of the MA DEP and broadening to include waste reduction, reducing environmental footprint. Group overall views this as reinvigorating the mission.

III. Schools – A. Wilcox and S. Shukla will follow up with S. Bliss and Environmental Club advisor this month re upcoming Region's Waste Management contract, Enviro Club initiatives, Volunteer opportunities for students, status of Sustainability push at Region.

IV. DRC Mission Update – M.Schmid, T. Boehme

Begin research, draw up goals, draft proposal, ready to review with other departments and propose to Selectman in Fall.

Topics for further research:

- Analysis of Dover's tonnage as measured by Committee vs. MA DEP
(MA DEPs thought to be potentially too favorable)

- Comparisons with like-towns – similar size, socio economics, Transfer Station & Third Party haulers.
 - C.Lisbon and C.Hughes informed group that a number of years ago (2000?) a Waste Disposal Study Committee was formed and reported on PAYT, and though potentially effective was seen as unpopular at that time.
 - Pay As You Throw system – thought to be best way to get tonnage down – bag charge, item charge. Questions raised as to where some of the tonnage may be diverted to.
- K.Mirza/MA DEP may be able to provide like towns, corresponding numbers and best practices.

V. Transfer Station – M.Kinchla, C.Poulsen

Signage updates are with the printers and C.Hughes and C. Poulsen are waiting to review first proofs.

J.O'Keefe writing articles.

Bulletin Board set for spring for flyers publicizing things such as Hazardous Waste Day.

Frames for Redeem trailer – C.Poulsen working on

Special Events – M. Kinchla working on Shredding at Trans Station, and looking for Book Box Charity to take books after being at Mary's Swap Shop long enough

V. Outreach – All

It was confirmed that the Spring Clean-up is 3/29 and that a good portion of the March committee meeting will need to be dedicated to finalizing arrangements for the event.

V. DR Program/Policy - All

J.O'Keefe provided a progress update of his efforts to update the recycling components of the town website. Committee members were asked to provide JK comments/suggestions for improvements they would like to see.

C. Poulsen provided members a copy of the Recycling Committee Report that had been submitted for the 2013 Dover Town Report. It was pointed out, and there was some discussion, about the significant differences between the total waste per household figures as reported by the Mass DEP. It was agreed that further investigation would be done by the committee to understand reasons for the vast differences in this measure with several nearby towns and what best practices they are employing that might be effective in Dover. It was acknowledged that this effort was already identified as an important initiative for the committee for 2014.

Adjourned.
Next meeting: 3/11/14

