

Ayer Recycling Committee Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, September 4, 6-8pm  
Ayer Town Hall

Attending: Shawna Graham, Dan Demille, Rebecca Jones, Laurie Sabol, Anna Fadden, Janice Goodrow, Dawn McCall

1. Review and approve minutes from April 3, 2019 meeting (attached to email)
  - a. Done
2. Updates from Laurie
  - a. Meeting with Robert about plastic bag reduction
    - i. There is pending legislation at the state level.
  - b. Harvard recycling meeting
  - c. *Continuation of social media/newspaper PR campaign: can be very productive, wish I had more time to spend on it*
  - d. Mailer sent a few months ago with sewer/water bill
3. Business cards: Janice
  - a. LS will look into
  - b. Do we need to have them adhere to town standards?
  - c. Should be included, name of committee, email address, printed on recycled paper
4. Bottle/can recycling: Becky
  - a. *Andrew agrees that it can take place at the Transfer station, at the far end. Will have two signs: one generic for the program and one specific to the organization that is currently benefiting.*
  - b. Someone (not at the school level) will have to coordinate. Becky volunteered to coordinate the first year. Becky suggests contacting scouts, civic groups, school groups, sports groups. Needs PR/talking points: ties community together, educating about redeeming, increases the amount of these things that might be recycled. Laurie and Becky will meet.
  - c. Becky will meet with the town accountant, find out from Andrew when the space will be available. Supplies such as rain cover, gaylord boxes are needed. Could there be a second drop-off location for people who don't use the TS?
5. Recycle Your Reusables activities
  - a. Volunteers
    - i. 34 currently signed up. Last year about 75 were on hand. Few high school students have signed on yet. I've had some limited success with groups: First Parish Church of Groton, Boxboro Sustainability Committee, Harvard UU church.
  - b. Vendors
    - i. All vendors are confirmed. Laurie reviewed the new vendors this year.
    - ii. Concern about media recycling/reuse: MTW will take VHS tapes for recycling @ \$10/box. Laurie will confirm all formats that MTW will take (either for reuse [free] or recycling[\$\$])
    - iii. If we have the funds and the need, we'll buy a 3<sup>rd</sup> Terracycle media box. We agreed that for Terracycle media, we'll accept a shoebox-sized box

for \$5. In the next email update, Laurie will feature this and ask for feedback.

- c. Fundraising
    - i. Janice has prepared a fund-raising plan and will begin contacting businesses and other organizations very soon.
  - d. Local arrangements
    - i. What to do about water.
    - ii. I double-checked and Loaves and Fishes has been confirmed.
  - e. RYR future
    - i. If we have small numbers again this year
      - 1. Figure out why?
      - 2. Cancel it
      - 3. Do it the same way
      - 4. Focus on reuse
      - 5. Join forces with another town
6. Action Items and etc
- a. Action Items
    - i. Laurie will talk to Mark about having a third food waste compost bin always available.
    - ii. Laurie will look into business cards for ARC members.
    - iii. Becky will continue planning for redeemables program. She and Laurie will meet to plan PR/outreach.
    - iv. Laurie will look into an option other than individual bottles for providing water at RYR.
    - v. Laurie will promote and ask for feedback about media storage options at RYR.
  - b. Two unclaimed breakfast certificates for Masons
  - c. Our next meeting will be Wed, 2/12/20, 6pm-8pm
  - d. We adjourned at 8:15pm.

Laurie Sabol  
for HT

Shirley Olson

Rebecca L. M. Jones

for

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JUN 08 2020

TOWN OF AYER  
TOWN CLERK

Shirley Olson