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SEP 10 2021

TOWN OF AYER  
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Ayer Recycling Committee Meeting  
Thursday, June 3, 5pm-7pm  
Minutes

Attending

*Committee Members:* Dan Demille, Shawna Graham, Becky Jones, Laurie Sabol

*Visitors:* Irene Congdon (MassDEP), Anna Fadden (Shirley resident), Pam Martin (Ayer DPW), Jana Murphy (Ayer resident), Dan Van Schalkwyk (DPW)

1. Approval of Minutes of February 2020 meeting
2. Upcoming MassDEP Municipal Recycling Coordinators meeting on organics composting. Learn about starting or expanding food scrap diversion in your community. June 9, 10-noon. Register [https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJwqc-yhrTMvHtMdOsEBXHMgNGFWF371HtcV?\\_x\\_zm\\_rtaid=d\\_XU4bSUTSuBltZjk-4i0Q.1620242742816.fb178dce8bac23bc12b83d959f3815e9&\\_x\\_zm\\_rtaid=596](https://zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tJwqc-yhrTMvHtMdOsEBXHMgNGFWF371HtcV?_x_zm_rtaid=d_XU4bSUTSuBltZjk-4i0Q.1620242742816.fb178dce8bac23bc12b83d959f3815e9&_x_zm_rtaid=596).
3. **Review of Activities/Projects/Events** (Laurie Sabol has email and documents supporting all below. What will be continued? Who might want to own them? Check with scouts, Rotary, Lions, businesses, to try to establish partnerships)
  - a) BECKY Lead on MassToss work, meetings, outreach
  - b) BECKY Lead on Irene/monthly email/MassDEP
  - c) LAURIE Work with Ayer BOH to strengthen hauler regulations (in process)
    - i) Stakeholders: BOH, DPW, haulers, landlords/property managers, residents
  - d) DAN Work with ASRSD to update district recycling policy (in process)
    - i) Work with PTO/Ayer Shirley Education Foundation on fundraising via Terracycle and ink cartridge recycling
    - ii) Food Waste Composting
    - iii) Green Team
  - e) DAN Annually, assure all Ayer municipal buildings are practicing recycling (**required for future RDP grants**) and other sustainability practices. Library, AFD, APD, TH, DPW good; not sure about Council on Aging. Chuck Schultz is the facilities director.
  - f) Recycle Your Reusables. Irene will set up a meeting of a group of people from Groton, Littleton and Ayer. A local Rotary group may be interested in getting involved.
  - g) BECKY Annual Reports for inclusion in Ayer annual report.
  - h) BECKY Town-Wide Cleanup (aka Keep Ayer Beautiful, an offshoot of Keep Massachusetts Beautiful)
  - i) LAURIE 6-pack ring pickup at JOL and downtown liquor store
  - j) LAURIE Compost bin/Kitchen scrap bucket sales
  - k) BECKY Grants
    - i) MassDEP Recycling Dividends Program (RDP): be in compliance to receive funds and spend proceeds. RDP deadline for 2021 is July 14
    - ii) MassDEP Sustainable Materials Recovery Program (SMRP)
    - iii) Retrac
    - iv) Data
  - l) Ranking projects that have not been started
    - i. Transfer station awareness and map

ii. Outreach to new residents. Assessor's office has names. This could be a larger-scale project that includes information from other boards, committees, facilities and businesses.

1. Both above can be combined into one mailer.

iii. Single-use plastic bag reduction education campaign (Laurie Sabol can supply docs).

iv. Ecobrick collection bin: Heather Pruiksma will contact Becky Jones to discuss further.

~~v. Repair Café~~

~~vi. List of green businesses in town: not now~~

~~vii. Develop nip bottle collection per other towns~~

4. **Education/outreach** outlets to Ayer residents. Some messaging specifically tied to MassDEP Recycling Dividends Program requirements/funding NOTE: Some accounts have passwords. Laurie Sabol will pass those on in person.

a) Hootsuite

- Ayer Recycling Committee FB
- Ayer Recycling Committee Instagram
- Ayer Recycling Committee Twitter

b) APAC

c) Scouts (See outreach doc)

d) Facebook (See outreach doc). Cindy Knox will post on Town of Ayer FB.

e) NextDoor

f) Twitter

g) Newspapers: Ayer-Shirley Tracker, NVV, Action Unlimited, Globe, Lowell Sun (print and online)

h) AFD E-sign [ayerma.seamlessdocs.com/f/esign](http://ayerma.seamlessdocs.com/f/esign)

i) School contacts

- ASRHS Terry Wallace [twallace@asrsd.org](mailto:twallace@asrsd.org)
- ASRHS Spencer Christie
- ASRSD Michelle Towne, 772-8600 x1508, [MTowne@asrsd.org](mailto:MTowne@asrsd.org)
- ASRHS Deb Rader, x1301 [drader@asrsd.org](mailto:drader@asrsd.org), Kim Sweetland
- ASRMS Principal raikay@asrsd.org, Barbara Dyer for youth venture, [blibby@asrsd.org](mailto:blibby@asrsd.org)
- Page Hilltop Elizabeth Lewis asst principal 772-8600 x1426 [elewis@asrsd.org](mailto:elewis@asrsd.org) (F Deppe)
- NHS Rob Sutton Rachel Melillo [rmelillo@asrsd.org](mailto:rmelillo@asrsd.org) [rsutton@asrsd.org](mailto:rsutton@asrsd.org)
- ASRHS student council Caitlin Quinn [cquinn@asrsd.org](mailto:cquinn@asrsd.org)
- Adam Renda, new ASRSD superintendent
- Parker School Sheila Kelly [skelly@theparkerschool.org](mailto:skelly@theparkerschool.org)

5. **Information Resources** (this is not a comprehensive list)

a) Beyond the Bin

b) RecycleSearch

c) Conservation Law Foundation [campaigns.clf.org](http://campaigns.clf.org)

d) JASON Learning K-12 resources [jason.org/portfolio\\_item/recycling](http://jason.org/portfolio_item/recycling)

e) MassDEP Green Team [thegreenteam.org](http://thegreenteam.org)

f) MassDEP RecycleSmartMA [recyclesmartma.org/resources](http://recyclesmartma.org/resources) (see editable postcard)

g) MassDEP Reduce & Reuse Workgroup, Erin Victor [Erin.Victor@mass.gov](mailto:Erin.Victor@mass.gov)

h) MassRecycle podcasts

- i) Irene Congdon's monthly newsletter
- j) Recycling Partnership, inc elist
- k) Recyclingworksma.com recycling for businesses and institutions
- l) Elists
  - NERC (Northeast Recycling Council)
  - Story of Stuff/plastic
  - Waste Dive: recycling
  - NRRRA (Northeast Resource Recovery Association)
  - Recycle-MA@googlegroups.com

**6. Supplies/Equipment inventory in DPW shed**

- a) Purple plastic bin with t-shirts, safety vests, aprons
- b) Translucent plastic bin with work gloves
- c) Trash grabbers
- d) Town map
- e) 3 white plastic signs and black bases. Note: signs are cleaned with Windex and markers should be the ones called Posterman (in another bin). No other markers should be used on these signs.
- f) 1 cleanup day banner. DPW should have another one.
- g) 1 roll large plastic bags (used to put Styrofoam in at RYR)
- h) Cardboard box with trash bags of various sizes and some misc supplies
- i) Wood A-frame sign
- j) Clear plastic bin with misc supplies
- k) Misc size white boards
- l) 4-5 outdoor, portable recycling bins
- m) 3 heavy-duty plastic A-frame signs
- n) 2-3 easels (best for indoor use)
- o) 2-3 boxes of kitchen scrap buckets
- p) Homemade stop/slow signs for use at RYR
- q) 2 small boxes of CDs/VHS, etc collected at 2019 RYR that Laurie Sabol will dispose of

**7. Transfer of Email/Documents.** Laurie will

- a) transfer email to Gmail account and will turn off autoforwarding. (Ayerrecycles@gmail mail is currently forwarded to my Gmail account.)
- b) hand over all account passwords to Becky.
- c) decide how/where to move docs (word, PDFs, spreadsheets, etc)

**8. Revising the Committee's Mission.** Ayer has a green communities committee and energy committee on the books but both are inactive. Maybe a newly-constituted sustainability committee could take on those projects within its umbrella. If ARC wants to pursue, talk to Carly Antonellis about process. Some examples can be found at

- a) [www.littletonma.org/sustainability-committee](http://www.littletonma.org/sustainability-committee)
- b) [www.leenh.org/sustainability-committee](http://www.leenh.org/sustainability-committee)
- c) [www.framinghamma.gov/3188/Sustainability-Committee](http://www.framinghamma.gov/3188/Sustainability-Committee)
- d) [www.weston.org/1296/Sustainability-Committee](http://www.weston.org/1296/Sustainability-Committee)

**9. Adjourn**

approved August 12, 2021 by DD, ~~SG~~ d RS  
 Rebecca L M Jones September 10, 2021