

June 15 2016 Ayer Recycling Committee Meeting Minutes

Attending: Dan, Shawna, Janice, Laurie, Anna, Melissa

1. Debrief on KAB
 - Fliers might not be a good use of time to distribute
 - Lots of new attendees this year
 - Next year's will be on April 29/30. Mark your calendar!
 - Contact other local towns with cleanup days to coordinate date and publicity: LS to do: Bolton, Groton, Shirley, Devens, Pepperell, Townsend, Squannacock Greenways (trail cleanup), Harvard
2. Repair café cancellation
 - Did not appear to receive much traction. We agreed not to try again.
3. Pros/cons of job descriptions
 - Agreed not to formalize committee job descriptions.
 - Briefly discussed our mission and agreed it is satisfactory to guide our work: *"The Ayer Recycling Committee benefits the community and the environment by supporting the recycling functions of the transfer station and encouraging effective recycling by the community to reduce the quantity of solid waste disposed of by Ayer residents. In addition, the committee seeks to encourage residents to become more educated about the benefits of reducing, reusing and recycling."*
4. MassDEP Sustainable Materials Recovery Program Grant
 - Mark, Tessa and Laurie completed grants for food waste recycling pilot program, mattress recycling, recycling dividends (about \$2400), and small-scale initiative (\$750).
 - Will know what we receive in about 4-5 months.
5. Fourth of July
 - Laurie will set out folding recycling bins at Pirone Park celebration no later than noon. She will contact Tessa about bags, Jeff Thomas to help set up and Andrew to confirm pick up on Sunday morning.
6. Recycling data
 - Annual stats for all towns in Massachusetts can be found at www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/recycle/reports/waste-reduction-and-recycling.html
7. RYR 16
 - Laurie will look over notes from previous sub-committee meeting and respond later this week. This will include giving Dan names of styro companies to see if there's someone to step in for ReFoamIt and divvying up vendor list.
 - Dehumidifier recycling will take place. This should result in some good publicity.
8. Project ideas
 - Below is the list Laurie has kept. Let her know if you are interested in pursuing any of the projects.
 - Janice/Dan: some textiles promotion
 - Anna: multifamily housing recycling: possible for each development to get a sticker, not each household. Where to start? List of places? Talk to building management.
9. Next meeting: August 9, 7pm

Project ideas

- Reuse event at library (puzzle night). From Irene: think about the senior center and housing. Many libraries already have a puzzle/game swap area. Talk with crafters.
- **From Mark**/town should create a solid-waste plan stating what we do, what we would like to do, hours of transfer station/brush dump etc. We already do XYZ, how can we add styro, plastic bags, increased hours, recycling for condos. How can we make recycling easier to manage?
- Business use of TS: recyclingworks
- Community flea market: decided not to pursue at this time (5/15)
- Could we have our recyclables rated? Check with Andrew. Promote responses.
- Learn more about hauler regulations
- Library/town hall recycling
- Partner with Nashoba Valley C of C re CET/Recycling Works, Ayer BoH, Ayer energy committee
- KAB/KMB
 - Should Ayer consider becoming a KAB affiliate?
 - National planting day
 - Cigarettes at parks? What is our bylaw?
 - Litterbusters: Mansfield, regular areas that people look at year-round
 - New Bedford does 5 a year. Local businesses host and provide trucks to pick up trash
 - Scott Wilson, Director of Roadway Operations, MassDOT
 - Adopt a highway. DOT provides vests, bags, tools.
www.massdot.state.ma.us/highway/DoingBusinessWithUs/PermitsRoadAccessPrograms/AdoptAHighway.aspx
 - Look at the KAB litter index
 - Look at KAB "I Want to be Recycled" spots