

Minutes

10-28-02

7:30 am

Durham Integrated Waste Management Advisory Committee

Present: Diana Carroll, chair; Tracy Wood, Julie Newman, Richard Gallant, Annmarie Harris, Guy Hodgdon, Jessie McKone, recorder

The minutes of the 9-23-02 meeting were approved after noting that the date of the meeting was listed as 9-26-02 in the minutes. The meeting took place on 9-23-02.

Town Councilor, Annmarie Harris, suggested that different individual councilors be called before future DIWMAC meetings so that various councilors would be invited to attend these meetings over time.

Diana shared several favorable comments that she had received from neighbors relative to our **Fall newsletter** that was mailed to Durham residents on October 10th. She confirmed that extra copies of the newsletter are available at Town Hall, the Public Works Office and the Durham Public Library and suggested that extra copies be brought to the Nov. 7th, Durham Business Association Gala. Annmarie was asked to mention the fall newsletter at the next town council meeting (tonight). She will remind people during the televised meeting that Fall Clean Up starts November 4th and will encourage residents to compost their leaves instead of bagging them. **Each** bag of leaves picked up by the town costs the town \$3.00. Annmarie suggested that extra newsletters be put on display at the Durham Public Works Office and at the Swap Shop. Tracy will make a poster to be placed at Houghton's Hardware, which encourages composting and/or the use of biodegradable paper leaf bags. Houghton's sells the paper leaf bags locally. Richard will e-mail DIWMAC members a draft of "the making of the fall newsletter" that will eventually be submitted for posting on the Durham web site.

Tracy has called for a **meeting of swap shop volunteers** via e-mail. Two meetings are slated for the convenience of the volunteers. They are: 10-29-02 at 7:30 am and 11-2-02 at 8:00 am. Topics to be considered will be winter procedures, outlets for special items, scheduling volunteers, and attracting more volunteers. Some of the inventory of the swap shop has been donated to charitable organizations and this practice will continue to the extent that volunteers are able to find time to make contacts and connections. Space issues will continue to be addressed by volunteers even after the new swap shop structure is established within the coming year.

Jessie reported that she and Dale are pursuing details of obtaining a matching grant from NH the Beautiful for the purchase of **paper recycling bins for each classroom** in the middle school and high school in Durham. Plans to purchase carts for getting the bins "curbside" on Fridays are being developed by facilities director Tim Knowles. Students plan to have fund-raising activities such as after school pizza sales to help with the funding of this plan. The town council will have to approve the acceptance of the grant, so the ordering of bins will be several weeks off.

Julie reported that the **Bioneers Conference** held during the third week of October, and sponsored by the UNH Office of Sustainability Programs (OSP) offered inspired speakers and valuable regional networking possibilities. Three DIWMAC committee members had the privilege of attending several workshops and talks. Julie also reported that the OSP and DIWMAC-sponsored poster about composting is ready to be displayed at Durham Marketplace (DMP) this week. It will be hung prominently over the produce section and will illustrate the composting of food waste that takes place through the efforts of the DMP and the OSP.

Guy reminded us that pre-registration is still being taken for the **household hazardous collection** scheduled for November 16th. DIWMAC has purchased flyers to be distributed free to Durham residents: "Hazardous Materials in your Home". They have been placed at the Durham Public Works Office, the Durham Town Hall and the Durham Public Library. These flyers are published by the NH Department of Environmental Services and will help with the education component of this initiative. Guy also reported that the future of the Governor's Recycling Program could be in question depending on the outcome of the upcoming election for governor. The NH DES is taking on more educational programs that could possibly fill the void.

The first reading of the **updated Solid Waste ordinance** will take place at the town council meeting tonight at 7 pm. The committee will urge the town council to send the document to a public hearing. Mike Lynch has planned a presentation to help the councilors and home viewers to visualize the plan as it affects owners of different types of properties.

The issue of **privatization of collection of waste** will be coming before the town council. The Public Works director was asked to put out a request for proposals for private collection. The bids are in and Waste Management, Inc. is the low bidder. This committee will formulate a recommendation to be presented to the town council as to a private versus a town-run collection. A public hearing will be required and now that it is budget season, this topic probably won't get addressed for several months.

Jessie will submit **updates to be posted to the Durham web site** including the posting of past minutes, upcoming meeting dates, a current member list and the recent fall newsletter.

Julie plans to send the New England Grassroots Environmental Fund a copy of the fall newsletter and a thank you note for their financial support of our outreach efforts.

Our Spring newsletter may encourage the use of **rechargeable batteries**. Most new household batteries do not require recycling and are therefore being trashed in huge quantities. This is an issue to publicize to teens and college students as well as the general population. (Very few older batteries with mercury show up in the blue bins any more.)

Antifreeze will be collected at the SWMF once the site reconfiguration has been completed.

Topics of news articles shared: Dover's new recycling center/Portsmouth starts on-demand clean up weeks and ends Spring and Fall Clean Up/UNH Greek System institutes guidelines for after-party clean ups/ Many sites for Coastal Cleanup including Oyster River

The **next 2 meetings** are set for 11-15-02 and 12-9-02 both at 7:30 am in council chambers.

The meeting adjourned at 9:40 am.