

**Minutes**

**8-22-03**

**7:30 am**

## **Durham Integrated Waste Management Advisory Committee**

Present: Diana Carroll, chair; Tracy Wood; Richard Gallant; John Kraus, town councilor; Doug Bullen, Public Works; Merle Craig, Jessie McKone, recorder

The minutes of the 8-1-03 meeting were approved.

Agenda Topics directly below correspond to numbered paragraphs, which follow:

1. Rain Barrel display
2. Durham Day
3. Paper Leaf Bags
4. Public Works Update/Swap Shop
5. Newsletter Planning
6. Oyster River Clean Up
7. Grant Money/Budget Request
8. Other--Article: "It's Your Garbage-Pay For It"
9. Next Meeting

1. Sky Juice, N.E. displayed and explained 2 rain barrels to educate the committee about this simple conservation and energy saving practice. Richard will inquire about the possibility of having them provide their display during Durham Day -- 9-14-03. The company was urged to find state subsidization so that consumers could get them at a reduced price. The \$65 price is \$20 or more lower than those offered elsewhere on the internet.

2. We now own an easel and Velcro board for use at Durham Day (9-14-03). Doug will provide photos of the work being done at the Transfer Station. Flyers about Household Hazardous Waste, the Oyster River Clean Up and Backyard Composting will be available at the IWMAC display. Sample paper leaf bags, ink cartridge mailers and worm bin designs will be set out as well. A Swap Shop time line and info explaining our stance on composting leaves and use of paper leaf bags may be prepared. Existing posters will be evaluated for re-use. Merle has the sample Earth Machine compost bin that we will display. Tracy will provide a table. Several committee members will attend Durham Day and explain our initiatives to visitors. DCAT will be filming but will edit each interview to about 2 minutes. Interviewees should plan to deliver a concise message. A suggestion page for naming the transfer station will be prepared. If a suggestion is chosen, a prize will be given to that entrant.

3. John will notify the town administrator of our plan to go ahead with the requirement of paper leaf bags for curbside pickup during Fall Clean Up. Diana will connect with Mike and then with local businesses to let them know that there will be a new demand for paper leaf bags. The leaf bag poster created for Houghton's Hardware last year is available for re-use. To avoid citizen unhappiness, solid waste workers will still pick up plastic bagged leaves. A reminder notice to such residents who do not use paper bags this transition year will be given to the drivers to dispense. Doug will facilitate this. We will emphasize composting leaves at home, in our newsletter, and introduce the idea of discontinuing leaf pick up for next year. (Residents who wish to bring leaves to the transfer station would bring them loose or in paper bags, as is the current practice for residents who truck their own.) Doug will prepare a message to go on DCAT so residents will know of the paper leaf bag requirement as early as possible.

4. Doug reported that the construction at the Transfer Station is moving along well. A sign will be put up immediately to alert people that the Swap Shop will close by the end of September. The projected re-opening of the Swap Shop is December 2<sup>nd</sup>. This information will be put in the newsletter and on DCAT. A Grand Re-opening has been suggested. The new entrance sign will include the town logo in color. Most signage will be in a standard font and will be black and white. Unsold items from September church flea markets will be subject to the coupon requirements for leaving bulky waste. Diana will talk to these groups about their options.

5. Committee members signed up to prepare draft articles for the newsletter. First drafts are due September 5<sup>th</sup>. Please e-mail them to Merle and Jessie. The Fall Clean Up will begin on November 10<sup>th</sup> and we plan to have the newsletter arrive 3 weeks prior to that date. The cost of hiring a printer/ folder for 2500 newsletters will be researched and we will ask if we can provide our own paper. Formatting requirements of the printer will be needed. Tracy, Jessie and Merle will confer. Richard urges the use of town equipment and volunteers to print, as in the past, because it saves a great deal of expense. How can we get this newsletter to renters ? We would like to increase our distribution. (Multiple copies to multi-unit owners ?)

6. We are co-sponsoring the Oyster River Clean Up that will be held this year on September 20<sup>th</sup>. Richard will take pictures at the event for inclusion in the newsletter. The UNH Office of Sustainability Programs will advertise with flyers to enlist as many volunteers as possible. Students of all ages and community members will be invited to participate.

7. Jessie will get budget balances so that we may further our spending plans from both the town and grant monies. Diana will submit a request for town money for next year for use in our newsletter/outreach (reduction) efforts, in the same amount as last year. The deadline for that request is September 5<sup>th</sup>.

8. Diana shared a recent news article entitled "It's Your Garbage. Pay For It", about NYC's return to the recycling of plastic and glass. No savings were realized when recycling was dropped there because "hauling garbage to disposal sites in other states is extremely expensive and becoming more so". The article favors "pay as you throw" and asks: "Who among us would relish paying our neighbors' phone or electric bills if costs were simply apportioned equally across the entire city?".

9. Our next meeting (primarily to discuss expenditures) will be on September 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 am at Town Hall. The meeting adjourned at 10:00 am.