Minutes

Durham Integrated Waste Management Advisory Committee

Present: Diana Carroll, chair; Tracy Wood; Julie Newman; Dale Valena; Richard Gallant; Merle Craig; John Kraus, town councilor; Jessie McKone, recorder

The minutes of the 9-15-03 meeting were approved.

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

Fall Newsletter
Leaf Bags
Swap Shop
Lee Swap Shop
Town Paper Purchasing
CCEI
Middle and High Schools Recycling
Committee Positions
Use of Grant Money
Screening of Dumpsters
Other Business
Next Meeting Date

1. Tracy reported that she received some calls from residents interested in volunteering after they read articles in our latest newsletter. Interest was expressed in the neighborhood clean ups and in the Swap Shop. Diana heard encouraging comments from residents who were determined to follow the advice for reducing catalogs and junk mail after reading our newsletter. Jessie and Richard submitted a color version of the newsletter in pdf format for placement on the Durham web site. It was posted within one days time.

2. We have seen many of the paper leaf bags being used throughout town. Next year we should try to ask storeowners who offer these bags to inform their employees as to where they will be (on the store shelves) so the demand can be more easily met.

3. Tracy will set up a meeting with Doug Bullen to hammer out a list of items that are not acceptable for the new Swap Shop. Overstuffed furniture and mattresses are likely to top the list and as such will need a bulky waste coupon for disposal. Julie suggests that we remind residents that a web based local bulletin board is available as an alternative, if an item is not acceptable at the Swap Shop. John will include any announcements that we have in his councilor comments. Any new Swap Shop guidelines can be placed on the DCAT bulletin board. Perhaps a postcard can be mailed to residents. Jessie suggests including new Swap Shop guidelines in the mailing that goes out just prior to January 1st.

4. Diana would like to organize a trip to visit the Lee Swap Shop. If you are interested, compare schedules with her to make arrangements.

5. John will bring the issue of purchasing recycled paper for town offices to the council. The opportunity to buy through UNH at discounted prices still exists. Further information about the UNH standard paper (80% recycled and 100% chlorine-free) is available through Julie Newman, 862-0172.

6. Jessie shared the draft Statement of Expectation that has been accepted by the Interfraternity and Panhellenic Council. The Greek houses plan to adhere to standards of property maintenance and show commitment to recycling and partnerships with businesses in the Enviro-Spot program and other seasonal events. Steve

Pappajohn, Supervisor of Greek Affairs, meets with the CCEI (Committee on Citizenship and Environmental Issues) and will contact IWMAC or Public Works as needed for resources. Jessie will not attend the CCEI regularly due to time constraints.

7. We need an update on paper recycling and co-mingled recycling at the middle and high schools. Julie reports that the UNH Office of Sustainability Programs continues to collect food waste from the middle and high schools for composting at Kingman Farm. Eight 32 gallon buckets of food pulp per day is being hauled from the new dining hall for composting ! Julie would like to see students learning about the importance of buying from local food producers as well as learning more about the process of composting. An Epping Coop provides apples for eleven schools in the region--a good opportunity for a field trip.

8. Diana suggested that we invite residents to attend our committee meetings in an effort to "recruit" a member for the current vacancy on the committee. Diana asked if anyone would like to take over chairing IWMAC. A discussion about changing roles ensued and the results include: Tracy will be the new chairwoman for IWMAC. Jessie will take over Swap Shop volunteer-coordinator duties from Tracy. Merle, Diana and Richard will take turns on the minute-taking duties for the committee.

9. Discussion on the use of our grant money will be pushed forward to our next meeting. Committee members are encouraged to give this topic more thought.

10. An update on the screening of dumpsters is wanted at the next meeting. Doug Bullen and Pati Frew-Waters may have input or background information.

11. Other:

a. "Oak Ridge" is the name the committee will recommend for the new transfer station and recycling center. Merle will pass this on to Mike Lynch.

b. the committee wants more information about residents' recycling options if they live in a development with a private way such as residents of Fitt's Farm.

c. Will Public Works or any other town entity benefit if PSNH installs a wood burning boiler at the Schiller Station in Portsmouth ? Future discussions are encouraged.

d. Diana handed out an article describing several organic farms that are now operating on the site of an old dump near Burlington Vermont. By recycling food waste the foundation makes 6,000 tons of organic compost each year and this contributes to the "circle of production" in the growing of 600,000 pounds of organic vegetables. Impressive! "Northern Sky News" August 2003, Issue 16

12. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 24th at Town Hall at 7:30 am. The meeting adjourned at 9:50 am.