

Durham Integrated Waste Management Advisory Committee

Minutes

2 – 16 – 04

7:30 a.m.

Present: Tracy Wood, Chair; Jessie McKone; Merle Craig; Julie Newman; John Kraus, Town Councilor; Doug Bullen, Public Works; Diana Carroll, recorder

The minutes of the 1 – 12 -04 meeting were approved with no additions or corrections.

1. Update from Public Works -- Doug
2. Town of Durham issues relating to IWMAC:
Recycling on Private Ways -- Merle;
Update on recycled paper used in town offices;
Non-point sources of water pollution in town -- Tracy
3. Annual Sale of Compost Bins -- Jessie
4. Spring IWMAC Newsletter -- Merle and Jessie
5. Swap Shop
6. Ongoing committee topics -- Tracy
7. Set **next meeting** date: Monday, **March 15**, 2004

1. Doug distributed charts showing recycling activity for the month of January. Noteworthy: the price offered Durham for cardboard has been steadily rising and recently hit \$85.00/ton. The committee is aware that the business of selling recyclables is comparable to buying and selling stock – prices are always fluctuating. Because of the current high prices being offered for cardboard, the committee may want to include a few sentences in the spring newsletter on the value of recycling cardboard and remind residents to cut down boxes to 2 feet x 2 feet pieces so that it will fit in the recycling truck.

Mixed paper hit a high of \$55.00/ton but most recently was quoted at \$50.00/ton.

All electronics are now sent for recycling to a facility in Stoughton, MA. Doug has been able to reduce the cost of recycling electronics by approximately 50% by using this vendor. It was brought to the committee's attention that Bonnie McDermott has taken charge of packing the dumpster that contains the electronic equipment that is sent out for recycling. Since the town pays a flat fee for a filled dumpster, the more that can be put into the dumpster the more money is saved. Bonnie has been doing an excellent job of efficiently packing the dumpster and thus saving the town money.

Doug also provided committee members with a chart for the month of January that details the # of vehicles that entered the Recycling Center, coupons turned in, the number of electronic items brought in, the tonnage of trash picked up curbside per week, etc.

Doug reported that the date for the annual hazardous waste collection has not yet been set. It will probably, like last year, be in the fall. The date should be available before the spring newsletter goes to press so that residents will have the date in advance.

2. Merle and Tracy will write a letter to the developers in the three subdivisions in Durham that have Private Ways (Fitts Farm, Spruce Woods, Allen Farm (not yet built) about the need for recycling in these residential areas. (The town is not obligated to provide services such as trash and recycling removal in developments that have designated "Private Ways".) It might be useful to remind owners that a permit to

drop off recyclables at the Durham Transfer Station can be purchased and a maintenance person can deliver the recyclables there. There was a discussion on some other ways that IWMAC may wish to proceed in the future regarding this situation. One alternative would be to approach the Planning Board and suggest the inclusion of a clause in the zoning regulations outlining the developer's responsibility to provide recycling. Diana, you should check with Tracy or Merle--I think someone is drafting a letter to the condo associations as well as the planning board. I forgot how it was left.

Julie will check with Lisa Beaudoin concerning the status of purchasing recycled paper through UNH for town offices.

Tracy gave a short explanation of nonpoint source pollution and the concern for its effect on estuaries and other water resources. Dog excrement is one example of this problem. She will write an article for the spring newsletter on this topic.

3. IWMAC will coordinate the annual compost bin sale. An order form will appear in the spring newsletter. IWMAC members will assist Public Works when it is time to distribute those orders.

4. Merle and Jessie distributed a mock up and schedule for the spring newsletter. The following is a list of articles and authors:

Leaf Bag Review – Diana

Neighborhood Clean Up – Jessie

Interview of multi-unit apartment owner – Jessie

Swap Shop – Jessie

Nonpoint source pollution – Tracy

Spring Clean up – Shari

Hazardous Waste Day Info and New Facility – Shari, Doug, Mike

Interview with PW driver of recycling truck – Merle

Compost bin ordering info – Jessie

Back page "Did you know?" – Merle

Newsletter target dates:

Draft articles due: 2/27 Final articles due: 3/17 Printing and folding: 4/1 – 4/9

Newsletter mailed: 4/12

5. Jessie reported that the Swap Shop was going well and we are lucky to have such great volunteers. Doug commented that with the addition of shelves, there is more floor space and that helps to keep everything neat and orderly.

6. Video Productions – this will be discussed at a future meeting. Members are encouraged to consider possibilities. Diana suggests educating about principles of sustainability. Jessie suggests running professional educational videos about sustainability on DCAT. We can research that possibility. We can also review the Durham Master Plan to see where such principles might fit into Master Plan revisions down the line.

IWMAC membership – there are still vacancies on the committee.

Composting expansion – Tracy suggested that a composting bin along with a compost turner and a kitchen composting collector be displayed at the Swap Shop and at Public Works during the bin distributions in June. This will help to further educate residents about composting. Everyone agreed that this is a good and useful idea. We also need to investigate ways to encourage more establishments contributing to the Kingman Farm composting operation.

Tracy spoke with Guy Hodgdon regarding a tour of the new plastics recycling plant in Milton. Guy said that the plant is not available for tours at this point.

Spring Clean Up will begin May 3.

College Brook Clean Up will be in April – Julie will announce dates. She suggested that neighborhood clean ups be planned to include UNH volunteers.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 15th at the Durham Town Offices in the Council Chambers at 7:30 a.m.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 a.m.