

Minutes

12-5-06

7:30 am

Durham Integrated Waste Management Advisory Committee

Present: Shelley Mitchell, chair; Dale Valena; Neal Ferris; Chuck Baldwin; Doug Bullen, Public Works Rep.; Mark Morong, Town Council Rep., Jessie McKone, recorder

Also present: Todd Selig, Town Administrator; guests Denise Blaha and Julia Dundorf of NH Carbon Challenge

Agenda Topics below correspond to numbered paragraphs that follow:

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Public Input
3. Approval of Minutes
4. Updates
 - a. Council Communication on NH Climate Change Resolution
 - b. Chair Position
 - c. Newsletter Editor Position
 - d. Fee Options for the Transfer Station and Recycling Center
5. Year in Review
 - a. IWMAC Annual Report
 - b. Future Directions/New Initiatives
 - c. Recruiting New Members
6. NH Carbon Challenge--Presentation by Denise Blaha and Julia Dundorf
7. Report from Public Works
 - a. Recycling Letter to Businesses
 - b. Recycling Containers in Downtown
8. Swap Shop Addition
9. Other
10. Next Meeting and Adjournment

1. No guests were present at the time of the meeting being called to order.

2. There was no public input at today's meeting.

3. The minutes of the 11-7-06 IWMAC meeting were approved after one spelling error was noted.

4a. Shelley reported that the Durham Town Council voted to place the NH Climate Change Resolution on the March 2007 town ballot. She reminded of us of Councilor Needell's e-mail asking us to help educate Durham citizens about the Resolution that urges government efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

4b. In lieu of an immediate successor to Shelley as chair of IWMAC, Chuck will chair the February meeting and Neal will chair the March meeting. Shelley would like to have one person as the designated chairperson to help assure continuity from one meeting to the next and to be the contact person responsible for communications with different town entities. Jessie asked potential candidates to remember that IWMAC members are supportive and are reliable in following through with support.

4c. Committee members expressed an interest in continuing educational outreach and noted that the Public Works would still be sending out notices of Spring and Fall Cleanup. Therefore, we could consider including prepared inserts like the flyer that the NH Carbon Challenge group offers. Chuck suggested sharing lists like those available through PSNH that show appliance energy savers and spenders. No one has offered to take on the newsletter editor job at this point, but new options may evolve.

4d. Council Chair, Neil Niman, shared with Shelley that there was no clear Council consensus on the subject of Transfer Station fees. Todd Selig offered that he had met with Public Works officials and staff,

who think that charging per bulky item would be too cumbersome. After extended discussion, the committee decided to ask Todd to bring the following recommendation regarding the Permit and Bulky Waste Coupon System to the Council: Transfer Station entrance permit stickers may be purchased for \$10.00. With this purchase residents would be issued one (1) bulky waste coupon good for the disposal of up to one pickup truck load of bulky waste. Residents wishing to purchase two bulky waste coupons for the year 2007 would pay \$35.00. Residents who have initially purchased one coupon for \$10.00 would pay \$25.00 to purchase a second coupon and \$65.00 for any additional bulky waste coupons needed within a given year. These recommendations have the full support of IWMAC. It was further noted that vehicles must have a visible entrance sticker on the windshield to enter the Transfer Station. Residents should be informed that they are entitled to the number of stickers that correspond to the vehicles they own. It is important for residents to understand and respect the guidelines. Dale and Jessie will provide Public Works with a list of the Swap Shop volunteers who are eligible for free permit stickers that will allow them to access the Swap Shop. Residents living on Private Ways will be eligible for free entrance stickers to access recycling and trash roll-offs. This recommendation encourages recycling since residents of Private Ways get no curbside pickup for trash or recycling. Swap Shop volunteers and Private Way residents may purchase bulky waste coupons at the same rates as any other Durham resident.

5. This item was moved to the end of the agenda to allow our guest presenters to present.

6. Dale gave an overview of IWMAC's efforts to date to learn about and network for reducing greenhouse gas emissions. She summarized the recent presentation in Newcastle given by our guests and asked our guests, Denise Blaha and Julia Dunsdorf to explain their program known as the NH Carbon Challenge (NHCC). They provided background flyers and proposed the idea of working with IWMAC to coordinate a town wide approach to the NH Carbon Challenge. Dale was enthusiastic about making progress since the challenge can be fun and simple and since she has already spoken to various Town representatives who are eager to meet and get going. She will send out possible dates for a planning meeting in January and try to invite all interested parties including Town committee representatives, Town officials, church, school, citizen and UNH representatives. 'Carbon Heroes' will be highlighted once Julia and Denise finalize their website. They hope to make an example of Durham's successes. They plan to have a Carbon Calculator on the website that individuals may use to assess their own households. Coordination with State legislators is expected in the near future. A presentation geared for elementary age students is also a future goal of the NHCC.

(The meeting moved to the foyer of Town Hall since another group had signed up to use the Council Chambers at 9 am.)

7. Neal and Doug handed out a draft of a letter about recycling opportunities for Durham businesses. The committee members were asked to review it and make suggestions and ask questions at the next meeting. Doug handed out catalogs for committee members so they can examine potential recycling containers that could be obtained for use in downtown areas. Further discussion is necessary.

8. Mark reported that he has spoken with Public Works Director, Mike Lynch, and Town Engineer, David Cedarholm about a Swap Shop addition. They are generally supportive. Mike stipulates that the structure be used only for construction materials.

9. Shelley handed out a draft of the IWMAC report she wrote that is to be included in the Town Annual Report. She asked for feedback by 5pm since the report due date is imminent. She will submit a photo or two to accompany the report. Dale spoke for all committee members in thanking Shelley for her hard work and outstanding commitment as chairperson this past year.

10. Since a 'summit' meeting about the NH Carbon Challenge is being planned for January, IWMAC members decided to forego a formal meeting in January. Therefore, the next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 6, 2007 at Town Hall. The meeting adjourned at 9:35 am.