

Durham Integrated Waste Management Advisory

DRAFT **Minutes**

6-12-07

7:30 am

Present: Chuck Baldwin; Dale Valena; Neal Ferris; Jenna Jambeck; Kim Nadeau; Doug Bullen, Public Works Rep.; Peter Stanhope, Town Council Rep., acting chair, Jessie McKone; Shelley Mitchell, recorder

Also present: Resident; Henry Smith

Agenda Topics below correspond to numbered paragraphs that follow:

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Public Input
3. Approval of Minutes
4. Report from Public Works
 - A. General Report
 - B. Recycling Containers for Main Street in Downtown Durham
 - C. Downtown Cleanup
 - D. Letters to Durham Businesses
 - E. Swap Shop Addition
5. IWMAC Goals and Budget Planning
6. Swap Shop Recognition Event
7. Transfer Station: free permit proposal update
8. Northeast Resource Recovery Association Conference Update
9. NH Carbon Challenge and Oyster River Carbon Challenge Update
10. Other
11. Adjourn

1. Henry Smith was welcomed to the IWMAC meeting.

2. Public Input was shared by Henry Smith about a recent article in the Boston Globe's Business Section about phantom energy otherwise known as energy snacking. Energy snackers refer to all of the items in our homes that consume electricity, even though they aren't in use or when turned off. Any piece of equipment with a red light that you can see means energy is being consumed. Use of a power strip that can easily be turned off or unplugged in order to cut off the energy being used is a good way to conserve energy. For example: when you're on vacation unplugging power strips or electric equipment can save you in energy consumption and save you dollars. Don't forget to "powerdown" at home and at work.

3. The minutes of the 5-1-07 meeting were approved.

4a. Doug Bullen reported that currently cardboard is up to \$100/ton and co-mingle is at \$17/ton, both are good rates. There is a higher demand for recycled materials. Mixed paper is at \$60/ton including the pickup, which is saving the Town \$5/ton along with reducing our fuel and road taxes in MA as a result. Plus less carbon emissions on the behalf of the Town of Durham is being incurred.

This year Spring Cleanup saw a reduction in materials curbside. In 2006 there were 130 tons as compared with 2007's 110 tons, for a reduction of 20 tons. This may have been a result of the Transfer Station and Recycling Center being open 2 weeks prior to accommodate the delivery of flood damaged materials.

4b. Dale expressed concern on the overall appearance of Downtown Durham. The Committee concurred. Once recycling and trash containers are placed on Main Street our efforts can't stop there. Cigarette butt containers are also needed in strategic locations. Providing a clean space downtown is vital to the Town's image and for encouraging patronage of local businesses. Businesses should be encouraged to keep their public spaces clean or otherwise the rat population will grow

and become a health concern. Yes, rats have been observed around merchant dumpsters, behind restaurants alleyways and in the narrow ways between buildings. Setting a state of mind is important in keeping Durham a clean and rat-free town. Dale shared her conversation with Larry Schaefer, Town Manager in Amherst, MA (and a past Town Administrator of Durham) who hires people to keep the downtown areas clean.

In an effort to have a “clean sweep” of Durham and raise the awareness level, the Durham Businesses’ and Durham Landlord’s Associations, along with Durham: Its Where You Live will be invited to our July meeting in order to brainstorm ways to work together for a clean and healthy Durham outreach effort. Whether we lampoon the issue with mimes working downtown or use signage i.e. “Put it in the can – Wildcat fans” we need to begin the clean sweep efforts.

4c. Recycling and Trash barrels have been ordered and we can expect a 6-8 week delivery period.

4d. The IWMAC letter to Durham Businesses will be mailed by June 15, 2007, our thanks go to Doug.

4e. David Cedarholm with DPW is working on the final structural plan to go to Tom Johnson for a building permit for the Swap Shop extension. We hope this process goes quickly and the addition can be made during this summer.

5. Jessie reviewed the goals discussed at our May meeting. A majority of these goals were associated with the Transfer Station and Recycling Center and can be taken care of by Doug Bullen with the PWD staff. As a Committee we need to identify goals attached to financial commitments. Shelley reviewed last year’s budget submission for \$575. IWMAC members are to submit their top three goals to Dale via email for the 2008 Town budget.

6. Last year the Swap Shop Recognition Event occurred in August, which was too close to Durham Day in September. When the event was held in the month of February it worked better for planning purposes and attendance. The decision was made to reschedule the Volunteer Recognition Event for February, 2008. In the interim, Kim generously volunteered to send thank you notes to our Swap Shop volunteers in appreciation for all they do.

Dale would like to encourage IWMAC members and others to volunteer as Swap Shop Volunteers. It’s a commitment of 3-hours, once every other month on Saturdays. It’s a great way to represent and connect with our IWMAC goals, along with having a wonderful time working with Swap Shop volunteers.

7. On the topic of the free permit proposal Ms. Lily is working on for the TSRC, among other Town entities, Peter felt IWMAC should formally communicate to the Town Council through Todd Selig about adopting open and free access to the TSRC. Discussion on the adoption of this proposal took place. Peter and Shelley will work on pursuing where the “Smart Pass” is in the process with Todd.

8. Jenna gave a quick overview on her attendance at the Northeast Resource Recovery Association Conference held on June 5 & 6 in Nashua, NH. All the sessions are outstanding and she would recommend for members of IWMAC and DPW to attend this conference next year. DES and Waste Management were in attendance. It was an excellent conference and should be included in our budget to permit member(s) attendance.

9. An overview on the recent Wine & Dessert gathering held by the Oyster River Carbon Challenge indicated it was a successful social event. The goal was to get people on board with the Carbon Challenge and the group’s activities. Recruitment efforts were made on committees for Events, Community Outreach and Resources. They still need more help on Events and Community Outreach and are in particular need of representation from Madbury. The Steering Committee has defined its goals and objectives but needs help developing and implementing strategies.

10. Kim shared high praise for the RENU recycling efforts. A lot of materials were recycled that would have otherwise ended up in the landfill. She got middle school students involved in funneling items to our Swap Shop. The UNH students of the service fraternity Alpha Phi did an outstanding job on this project. Great Job!

IWMAC will participate in this year’s Durham Day to be held on Sunday, September 16 from 1-4 pm at Wagon Hill. We’ll set up our Display Tent and have IWMAC members on hand to field questions.

The UNH Commuter Guide will include the recycling information about Durham that Jessie submitted to them. The guide will be issued in September to all commuter students. It is nice to be included in this publication, thanks to Jessie!

11. **The next meeting will be on Tuesday, July 10th at 7:30 am at the Town Hall.** The meeting adjourned at 9:15 am.