

Durham Integrated Waste Management Advisory

DRAFT

Minutes

7-10-07

7:30 am

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

Also present: Resident: Henry Smith; Todd Selig, Town Administrator; Jerry Loughman: Durham Landlords Association; Jennifer Murray and Erika Mantz from Durham: It's Where You Live.

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. Swap Shop Addition
 - C. Response from letters to Durham Businesses
5. Clean Sweep for Durham Discussion
6. IWMAC top goals and budget planner
7. Transfer Station: free permit proposal update
8. Other
9. Adjourn

1. Henry Smith, Jerry Loughman, Jennifer Murray and Erika Mantz were welcomed to the IWMAC meeting.

2. Public Input was shared by Henry Smith. Henry passed out a cartoon entitled "Carbon Offsets R Us" that he was not endorsing, but thought the IWMAC may find interesting. Henry also brought up the issue of banning plastic bags for a second time. Bans on plastic bags have already occurred in California and other countries. This Issue has been briefly discussed by the IWMAC before, and Chuck reiterated that many people beneficially use and reuse the bags for other uses, including as a replacement for garbage bags, which he does.

3. The minutes of the 6-12-07 meeting were approved.

4A. Doug Bullen reported that currently cardboard is up to \$100/ton and paper is at \$150/ton, great rates. Doug is going to periodically (potentially monthly) calculate savings incurred by Durham because of recycling rates for a Friday update. Councilor Stanhope suggested the update for the Friday update (all agreed) and the group thinks this would be a good article for the newsletter, including positive environmental aspects from recycling. Todd Selig suggested contests or goals can be made for the town as well. Doug passed around a photo of the recycling bins for the town – four will be arriving before the fall.

4B. SWAP Shop addition – Dave Cedarholm is working with Mark Morong on this, including handling the permit.

4C. The recycling letter was sent to Durham Businesses. Doug has had no responses about the letter directly; however two businesses relocating to RT 108 have contacted DPW to get into the recycling program.

4Other. Shelley has seen new street signs and thought they looked great – in general a lot of good updating (and therefore construction) is occurring in Durham right now. Shelley wonders how the July 4th celebration went – any recycling? Doug said that UNH had fewer barrels available than in previous years. Doug tried to obtain recycling bins from the NRRA, but they were booked. Chuck asked if we could use the Durham recycling truck, but Doug said that it was used for collection this July 4th and the height of the truck is not really appropriate for people placing items into.

5. Clean Sweep of Durham: Jennifer Murray stated that Durham: It's Where You Live (DIWUL), has conducted two cleanups of Durham. One took place last spring and was called "Green-up Durham." It was a collaboration of UNH

students, staff and Durham businesses. This year, the cleanup was held in conjunction with Earth Day. Dale mentioned that cleanups are vital and a part of the solution, but we are also talking about a day-to-day culture. How do we encourage people to take pride in the town on a day-to-day basis? (previously we had discussed a mime, etc.). Jennifer stated that the UNH Picnic held in the fall might be a good opportunity for an awareness campaign. Shelley stated that it would be a good idea to have something in both the fall and spring – by having something in the fall, we set the tone for the students next four years. Jennifer said an ad/poster campaign was run previously that showed positive partnerships between students and businesses. Peter suggested that maybe an agreement (e.g., “5 Things you can do to stop Litter”) be signed by businesses, landlords, public works to work on the litter issue – agree what areas would be cleaned and whose responsibility it would be as litter breeds litter, so the cleaner it is the less likely people are to litter. For example, maybe the businesses could have one staff member sweep/clean/pickup out front every day. It benefits business owners and landlords to have clean property. Another suggestion was to give people who litter summons for court where a potential punishment was community service picking up litter. Discussion over the CD “Choices Matter” that is given out to incoming freshman students focused on the part of the CD that discusses living in Durham. This is good, but we could do more to reach out to the students. There was some discussion on what areas public works covers for cleanup – just sidewalks or sidewalks and grass? Doug said that workers should be picking up from both the sidewalks and grass areas – not on people’s property though. The group discussed that for the most part, many entities did a good job of keeping things clean, there are just a few dumpsters/areas that are typically messy/littered. Todd asked how we can take a cooperative approach to the issue. Jerry said he would mention the issue to the landlord association as a reminder to the member to keep things neat and clean. However, there are landlords in Durham that do not belong to the association (they have to join a code of ethics in order to be able to join). The committee agrees that the relationship between Durham and the students is relatively good and is thankful that litter is the biggest issue to address right now, but it still needs to be addressed. Some suggested that publicity, shame, or peer pressure for the offending entities could help to mitigate the problem. Jenna and Dale volunteered to be on a subcommittee to work cooperatively with various entities on this issue. To start, they will attend the DPW Dept. Head meeting July 19 at 9am and attend the next DIWUL meeting. It is important we work in parallel and in partnership with these entities.

6. IWMAC top goals and budget planner

Top three goals for 2007 are the following:

1. Improve signage for transfer station - Chuck
2. Clean-up downtown - Dale
3. Newsletter - Kim

Discussion was had about the signage at the transfer station. Shelley suggested having an open house day where people could come and just explore and get to know the facility without brining anything. Dale suggested for the people not asking questions that they have, somehow make it clear to them that they can ask. Chuck suggested that a sign could read “just ask” and/or the volunteers could wear buttons that said this as well. Doug agreed that fresh signage is needed and we could also pass out diagrams when people get their stickers and have them at the transfer station (we had discussed this previously as well). Peter also suggested the economic benefits to recycling could be posted at the transfer station for people to read. The entire IWMAC plans to visit the transfer station before our next meeting and get ideas to bring to the next meeting to discuss. Shelley suggested that each goal for 2007 should have a committee member associated with it to spearhead efforts. The committee member that volunteered for each goal is listed above with their corresponding goal. Shelley also asked if Todd could support these 2007 IWMAC goals and Todd replied yes, he could.

Other commitments to include in the budget:

1. Send at least one IWMAC member to Northeast Resource Recovery Association (NRRRA) conference in 2008
2. Swap Shop volunteer recognition social in Feb., 2007

7. Transfer Station- free permit/smart pass proposal update. Shelley reported that it looks like one of the benefits to the Durham “smart pass” would be free access to the transfer station. Todd will let the committee know when the town council will be voting on the smart passes. Chuck recommended putting something in the newsletter. Shelley wanted to document that the IWMAC has recommended free transfer station access long before the smart passes became a discussion point. We heard the public loud and clear that they wanted free access to the transfer station.

8. Other. Shelley inquired about the Energy Steering Committee and if there is overlap between what an energy committee might do and what the IWMAC already does in Durham. Do we have enough volunteers in Durham to cover both committees? Chuck suggested merging the two committees. Todd said these thoughts should be expressed to the

energy steering committee – Todd will initiate this contact. Shelley suggested strengthening efforts while moving forward. The chair of the next meeting will be Jenna and it will be held August 14 at 7:30-9:00am at the Durham Town Hall.

that this is our first meeting without Jesse and Dale just wanted to acknowledge what amazing work Jesse had done for the town of Durham through the IWMAC. Jesse was on the committee for 6 years and she was a great mentor to Dale and others. Shelley said that Jesse was an inspiration to the committee and to each individual. We admire her work and her as a person and she really has had a huge impact on the Town. The group unanimously agrees.

Kim is sending out Thank You cards to swap shop volunteers and is heading up the next newsletter – bring your ideas for stories to the next meeting.

Shelley handed out the “Project Laundry List” Newsletter, asked if people have heard of Resource Recycling Magazine (handed around a copy), and handed out the list of transportation needs for Durham developed from the UNH Institute on Disability Public Transportation Meeting held on June 27, 2007. Also be aware the UNH Organic Dairy is up and running. Jenna said that you can buy milk made from the UNH organic dairy at The Durham Marketplace (Organic Valley).

Neil felt he needed to respond to the cartoon that Henry handed out earlier. Although it talked about reducing carbon emissions, which was good, it incorrectly states that Al Gore has a “mansion.” Al Gore is walking the walk and when this is printed it perpetuates a falsehood.

11. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, August 14th at 7:30 am at the Town Hall. The meeting adjourned at 9:25 am.