

Integrated Waste Management Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes for Tuesday, June 17, 2008
Durham Town Hall 7:30 - 9:00 a.m.
Final Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Jenna Jambeck, Chuck Baldwin, Kim Nadeau, Julian Smith, Heather Harvey, Neal Ferris, Doug Bullen, Scott Cloutier.

1. Welcome and introductions
2. Public input – no public in attendance
3. Approval of minutes from May meeting – Neal Ferris motion, Kim second. Approved.
4. NRRA Conference Recap and Discussion
 - a. Recycling all plastics...Portsmouth and Exeter all pick up #1 – 7 plastic. WM said that still cannot find market for #3 – 7. Neal has a call into Silke Psula to see what is happening to #3 – 7 plastic in Portsmouth. Third session attended: Sorting out Single Stream (combined recyclables).
 - b. Neal: Our long term goal should be a combination of pay as you throw (PAYT) and single stream recycling.
 - c. Julian: Was there any discussion on why mercury is still used in CFL light bulbs? Neal: More mercury is emitted using an incandescent bulb (e.g., emissions from coal fire power plant) than in the compact fluorescent. Julian: What if a CFL is found in trash? Doug: Bulb should be removed and put in a plastic bag and not disposed with household trash. Neal: Most people want to do the right thing, but not everyone knows what to do yet. CFL bulbs packaging does include the method of disposal. In 5-6 years there will be a lot of these bulbs in the waste stream when they start burning out.
 - d. Doug: Thought Exeter used WM and wondering how they are recycling #3 – 7. Some WM facilities have single stream now. Chuck and Jenna: #3 – 7 plastics recycled in India and China and what is the environmental cost to that? Why do manufacturers use #3 – 7? Reactivity or cost?
 - e. Zero waste session: Chuck: Requires a long term commitment (5 year) begins with adopting a policy to minimize waste in any way possible. Composting innovation, Green Cone, where you can compost meat, dairy, etc. Buried in the ground. Developed by a European company. Adds another level of composting which could get us closer to zero waste.
 - f. Julian: Throws meat and bones into pond and fish eat the meat and pick bones clean and bones dissolve eventually.
 - g. Chuck: For Zero Waste you also identify indicators to chart your progress, observe changes and improvements. A very long term process, includes supporting better legislation for product stewardship, etc. Redesign our resource usage with an aim of reducing our waste. PAYT in NH communities has provided a reduction of 25-35% of waste. As much as can be managed at the source (e.g., at the home), the better.
 - h. Julian: Town council resistant to PAYT, b/c of time to buy the bags, etc. Not supported PAYT, b/c could result in more litter and dumping of trash on unoccupied property. Kim: Other towns also dumping trash (coming in for spring clean up and leaving their trash). Wasn't there a study on PAYT and that it would not be appropriate for our community because we locally manage our material? Doug: Townspeople want trash picked up by the town and there might not be enough revenue generated to fund the pickup. Durham currently does well at recycling.
 - i. Julian: There had been a suggestion of contracting out trash pickup and Julian thought this was a bad idea because he had seen it happen in other towns where prices went up and service went down. Chuck: Was not suggesting a contractor pick up the waste, but the town do it.
 - j. Kim: Need to read the study that was conducted and see if we want to continue this discussion. Durham does a lot already.
 - k. Chuck: Can we recycle aluminum cans? Doug: Already separate aluminum from the other metal in the pile, etc. but not cans.

- l. Julian: Some communities have source separated materials (e.g., glass, aluminum, etc.) and here some people are putting food in recyclables, etc. As town gets bigger, we may be able to add staff to the transfer station
 - m. Jenna: NH the Beautiful – thought it was an arm of Keep America Beautiful, but was more funding for recycling equipment, etc.
 - n. Kim: will find old document on PAYT
5. Clean Sweep Update
 - a. Scott: Emailed Cheryl of Clemson Solid Green to see if they did enforcement of littering laws, but have not heard back from her.
 - b. Will specify locations for bins to placed next fall.
 - c. Doug: Powerwashed the sidewalks last night (June 16) – soy-based cleaner.
 - d. Heather: Have businesses empty or watch trash cans during peak hours.
 - e. Julian: Member of Durham Business Association and they have invited guests come to speak. We could be invited to speak to them and they can be approached. You don't have to have a business to join the association. Chuck: Great to have a nice business connection.
 - f. Chuck: Funding to support some of the clean sweep program? Shared with town and university.
 - g. Jenna: Adopt a spot recommendation.
6. Report from Public Works
 - a. Rules posted at the SWAP shop
 - b. Addition
 - i. Chuck: Can we build a lean-to roof off the back instead of off the side? 10 feet out is level. Chuck: Talk with Tom Johnson about project and if approved, Doug can help with materials cost, etc. Julian can go out and look at the building with Chuck.
7. Goals and Budget Plan
 - a. Newsletter – Kim: Get budget request in for newsletter – will get the number to Chuck.
 - b. NRRRA/education – Still budget for this? Yes, use Shelley's numbers and edit by this year cost from Chuck
 - c. Outreach and Durham Day – Some funding to give prizes (reusable bottle). Have example green cone and compost bin (Norseman Plastics).
 - d. Swap Shop volunteer recognition – Mostly volunteer, but some expense for drinks, etc.
 - e. Chuck: Can everyone email the top 5 goals (e.g., what is important to you?) for the committee for the next year (in order of priority)?
8. Quick updates
 - a. Recruiting (ad in the Friday Updates – Matt Cortland has applied for a position)
 - b. Down to Earth article ideas? – Julian: Beaver build dams and store wood for winter. They abandon ponds eventually and wait 15-20 years before they can come back (with new tree growth). 2 cords of wood taken from abandoned beaver pond. Beavers are pulling out wood from the bottom of the pond and using for their new dam. Use this as a metaphorical story. Maybe bring in interesting cut wood. Project in future cleaning out beaver pond? Chuck: Reach out to Energy Committee to see if they want to add anything (Kim will do this). Chuck will reach out to ORCC and get his Hank and Clifford article in
 - c. New town hall displays? – Chuck: Should we budget for this? (\$100). Periodically have things out that promote reduce, reuse, recycle (e.g., compost bin, photo of swap volunteers, recycle bike, etc.). Kim check with Jane to see if photo is up to date.
9. Motion to adjourn Julian, Neal second, passed – adjourned at 9:17am.

NEXT MEETING, JULY 15, 7:30am