IWMAC Meeting Minutes Town Council Chambers, Durham Town Hall May 4, 2022, 8am

Attendees: Nell Neal, Sam Hewitt, Rich Reine, Julie Kelley, Susan Richman, Al Howland, Mary Caulfield. Absent: Carden Welsh, Naomi Kornhauser, Sally Needell.

Approval of minutes: edits were made to the April 20, 2022, minutes. April 20, 2022, minutes were approved as amended.

Town Council: No council updates due to no council member being present.

DWP Report:

DPW Bulky Waste - a lot of stuff is out curbside for being collected, also a lot of stickers are being used for tagging. The transfer station is also busy with bulky waste drop off. Rich voiced; Bulky waste pickup creates a 3-week disruption for the DPW department and is counterproductive to the department's goals. The town-wide pickup offers an easy opportunity for residents to dispose of household stuff that could be reused or sorted better. It was suggested to post pictures and give a bulky waste follow up in this week's Durham Friday Update.

Transfer station configuration - Rich has put Janice on this project, an inventory of the signs is being tallied for determining what new signs are needed. Sam showed us the 4 X 8 ft Transfer Station Welcome sign that Janice designed, this sign to be located outside the main gate. The new signs and the transfer station configuration are being thought out together. Susan reminded of thoughts for a sign on rt 108 directing residents to the Transfer Station. Unfortunately, Janice is leaving DPW in 4 weeks.

Recycle Right Logo and Next Steps: Nell shared that Todd Selig had suggested forming a small committee for further discussing how best to implement the environmental "brand" as a town wide initiative. Suggested wordage alternatives for "Sustainable"; Nell proposed "reciprocal", Sally suggested "a more sustainable Durham". Julie reminded us of the ORMS logo submissions. Julie also mentioned a ORHS student for a creating a logo. Rich suggested the online independent graphic designers; search "online logo contest".

Durham Day: (June 4th, 12:30-2:30pm) Al has been focusing on the food element for the event which is coming together, recognizing that Durham Day is a great chance for new town eatery exposure. IWMAC will have a table and offers a good opportunity for face-to-face interactions with the public to explain how the transfer station can be used. Take along information; preference to use QR codes vs paper. DPW will supply a pop-up tent. Other suggests were to use Jim Lawson's 2 composting posters, indoor compost bins, choice items from the swap shop, information from Waste Management of specific recycling materials (a "yes/no" sorting pile) Sam will bring game recycling items to next meeting. The public event single stream recycling containers may also have arrived in tome for using at Durham Day. Thoughts of parking a DPW Recycling Truck at the event on 66 Main St. Who will be sitting behind the table? A take on Hayley's rubric was used to list/assignment tasks for Durham Day, continue discussion of Durham Day at next meeting. Who is IWMAC? Revisit Naomi's work on this:

What in the world is IWMAC? Would it help to know it stands for (the) Integrated Waste Management Advisory Committee? Probably not!

IWMAC is a committee of Durham residents concerned about what happens to all of our STUFF – the stuff that is filing up our landfills, littering our lands and waters, and costing increasingly more for our town, and thus our taxpayers, to manage.

IWMAC believes in the three R's - Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle. Working closely with the Department of Public Works (specifically the ever-helpful Sam Hewitt, Assistant Director) we explore ways to increase community awareness of how our waste is handled and how our community is impacted environmentally and financially. This includes making recycling and composting easier, encouraging reuse at venues such as the Swap Shop, and demystifying what goes on at the Transfer Station.

Even though we are focused on sustainability and increasing waste efficiency in our town and community, IWMAC knows we can't do this alone! Our work will not be successful without you, our fellow residents. We are always looking for ways to improve and welcome your ideas and suggestions on our work. Please feel free to reach out! You can contact us at (created email address).

DPW Story Map: Sam showed us a visual for using as the header portion of the story map.

New England Grassroots Environment Grant Application: Susan distributed an update of the application for our review. Cheers to Susan for her dedicated work and moving forward on the application.

ORHS Sustainability Scholarship - Julie mentioned so far receiving 4 ORHS applications for scholarship review. It is very impressive to see OR students' involvement and passionate for the environment. The Earth Day library event was very well done.

Meeting adjourned 9:30am

Submitted by Mary Caulfield