

IWMAC Meeting Minutes - Draft
Durham Town Hall, 2nd floor Conference Room
June 7 2023, 8am

In attendance: Sam Hewitt, Sally Needell, Julie Kelley, Nell Neal, Heather Grant, Richard Reine, Susan Richman, Carden Welsh, and Naomi Kornhauser

Nell announced that Mike Pazdon is interested in joining IWMAC and will submit application.

Town Council Update.

- We need to define our goals and align them with the goals adopted by the Town Council.
- Rich explained current status of Epping waste water treatment problem. Their system works better in warm weather but will still take years to correct.

Planning Board Update. The PB is working on zoning changes. Heather thinks the site plan regulations include space for waste handling, but she will confirm.

Susan gave legislative update that the proposed state budget will cut the DES budget from \$2 million to \$1 million. She urged us to write Rebecca Perkins Kwoka to protect DES budget.

DPW Update

- Sam and Rich attended NRRRA conference, including an informative session on textile recycling presented by Apparel Impact.
- DPW collected approximately 120 tons of bulky waste this year, down from 180 tons last year. Sally asked Sam to calculate amount of bulky waste per household. Rich advised that we reevaluate bulky waste pick-up and take a position in support of DPW. Will likely require separate meetings for in-depth discussion.
- John Baker completed his waste and recycling audit; info will be used to plan automated collection. He found that about 50% of households are recycling curbside. DPW will likely recommend that each household receive a 64 gallon waste container and 96 gallon single stream recycling container. Funding for automated pickup will likely be part of FY 2025 budget. FY 2024 budget will likely include compactor for solid waste at Transfer Station to save on fuel and manpower in hauling trips. New plan does not include compost collection.

Durham Day Review. Sally reported that Swap Shop children's items were popular, but few leaflets and stickers were collected and only one person asked about composting. Sally and Julie agreed that the audience was different from an Earth Day audience. We will consider planning a Sustainable Durham event separate from Earth Day. On a positive note, Susan handed out lots of Remember the Bag hangers and there were positive comments on DYKs.

Budget

- Naomi reported that we have spent \$401.55 of \$1500 grant and none of our town budget.
- Nell, Sally, and Naomi will meet with Portsmouth Sign to order design and production of 4 aluminum signs with these tentative messages: Recycle Right, Got Compost?, Reduce/Reuse/Repurpose, and either Aluminum – The Ultimate Recyclable or Use Less Plastic.
- Carden made motion that we spend up to \$1100 of grant money for 4 signs. Motion passed unanimously. We need contract in hand by July 1 to meet grant deadline

Next meeting will be on June 21.