

IWMAC Meeting Minutes - Final
5 Garden Lane, Durham
June 21, 2023, 8am

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

Welcome to Mike Pazdon, who was sitting in and considering joining committee.

Agenda and minutes approved.

DPW Update.

Sam reported on bulky waste numbers.

- 5700 residents do curbside pickup
- 101 tons collected, or 32 lbs/person, compared to 180 tons last year
- Additional 23 tons collected from landlords
- Eliminating bulky waste pickup would save on disposal fees and fuel and allow for better use of staff.
- Decision will be made by budget time (Jan-Feb) whether to recommend ending program
- Sam will make a presentation to committee in August about bulky waste issue

Reactions to video shared by Todd questioning recycling.

- We need to educate the public about where our recycling is going, what we are getting paid for, and how the commodity market affects recycling.
- Recycling creates its own market and has long-term benefits economically and environmentally.
- Resource Recycling refuted Greenpeace Article. Sam can send link to article

Planning Board Update

- A car wash is being considered on Route 108. Water will be filtered and recycled into town sewer. Chemicals are supposedly benign.
- Do site plan regulations need explicit language about access to trash and recycling containers? Consensus was that need for access is implied in existing regulations and additional language is not necessary.

Update on production of aluminum signs

- Nell will get cost proposal from Portsmouth Sign
- We will purchase galvanized channel posts for signs
- Possible locations include traffic triangle in front of Post Office, Town Hall, Memorial Park, Wagon Hill, Middle and High Schools, 108 near light, roundabout.

- Subcommittee will approve proofs of sign designs
- After signs are final, we will order 4 banners to match. Nell will get quotes from Portsmouth Sign and Staples. Could be placed at library.

Miscellaneous business

- Susan plans to talk with Paige Wilson at DES about composting
- Put brochures at Swap Shop and Farmers' Market
- Consider using electronic sign to echo messages on aluminum signs.
- Susan wants to pursue working with local restaurants about reducing plastics.

Next meetings will be on July 5 or 12, August 16, and August 30.