

IWMAC Meeting Minutes for 1/3/2024

The meeting was called to order at 8:05 AM.

In Attendance:: Julie Kelley, Heather Grant, Carden Welsh, Sally Needell, Mike Pazdon. Nell Neal, and Sam Hewitt

Town Council Update:

The 2024 Town Budget was approved.

The cancellation of the Bulky Waste Curbside Clean-up was approved

The auditors report was presented with no concerns.

Planning Board Update:

This has been a slow period with no new applications.

Department of Public Works Update:

- The DPW is checking on how well the new EV Garbage trucks perform/hold their charge in the winter before committing to the new EV trucks. Rutland, VT is using them this winter.
- Holding Bulky Waste days at the DPW may be spread out to 4 times/year.
- Toters may be “rolled out” in 2024, ahead of the date for launching of new automated trucks.
- An ordinance change will need to be made.
- Adjustments in the sizes or number of toters may be made to accommodate large households.
- Trash day audits will help reduce contamination of recycling when trucks are fully automated.
- The company supplying the new toters may be able to take some resident garbage toters to recycle.
 - Residents will be encouraged to keep their toters for other purposes. The Swap Shop will be able to take ones that are clean and in good shape for other residents to reuse
 - Public/community meetings will be scheduled to inform residents of the new toter program (and will be followed later with meetings to explain the launch of fully automated trucks).
- The DPW will share trash and diversion rates information for 2021, 2022, and 2023 in Friday Updates.

Reduce, Reuse, and Repair Program Discussion

The committee members shared information about local businesses and makers who do repairs that may be listed for resident use and may be interested in a program on repairing items to be held at the Library. Names should be sent to Nell.

- Shoe repair
- Clothing
- Small appliances, vacuum cleaners, sewing machines
- Makers

Bulky Waste Disposal and Options for Donating Reusable Items

- 1) Committee members shared additions to a list for donation, sale, and purchase of reusable items
Added to the list were additional thrift stores, e-waste collection, clothing and sports equipment consignment and sale.
- 2) Bulky Waste removal from residences included:
 - Truck rental
 - Community-minded residents willing to use their personal trucks

Junk haulers

UNH Student Volunteers fulfilling community service requirements

These lists and ideas will be shared through the town DPW webpage and Friday Updates

UNH Sust 750 Capstone Project

Julie explained the history of the Capstone Project and plans for this year's students

- Goal is create an Education Campaign promoting recycling and composting and making it accessible to anyone, especially busy families, via social media.
- 4 UNH students in the Sustainability Program will participate.
- The focus of the project will promote increased awareness, increased reasons to care, and ultimately more sustainable behaviors.
- The quantitative goal: less trash going to the landfill.

The discussion also included the need for students to understand and care so that they teach their families, as well as whether or not grant money might be sought.

New Business

Discussion suggestions included ways to get the attention of residents, redesigning of pamphlets to draw attention, working with other groups in town, outside of Durham, UNH, schools, and ways of making it easier for local businesses-apartment complexes- to recycle and compost. Also basic information regarding HB1636 Container Deposit System in NH to improve recycling recovery was shared.

Next Meeting January 17th

Agenda Suggestions for 1/17

Recycle Right and Compost Pamphlets

Capstone Project Update

Repair Program

DPW Garbage Trucks update, MAC truck data to share, Toters update

Approve minutes from November 15, 2023 (Not done on 1/3/24)

Submitted by Sally Needell