

IWMAC Meeting Minutes – DRAFT
Durham Town Hall
June 18, 2025, 8am

In attendance: Sam Hewitt, Julie Kelley, Nell Neal, Sally Needell, Mike Pazdon, Janet Perkins-Howland, Paul Rasmussen, Richard Reine, Susan Richman, Peter Yost, Naomi Kornhauser, and Steven Fellows.

Agenda approved.

Minutes from June 4 approved.

DPW Update

Sam reported that lithium ion batteries are banned in NH as of July 1.

- Information was included in June 6 Friday Updates. A new DYK would be helpful.
- Lithium ion batteries should not go in trash. Transfer Station (TS) will take these and all rechargeable batteries. Staples also takes all batteries.
- Batteries disposed of in solid waste should be taped at ends to prevent fire hazard.

Sam reported that abutter notifications have been mailed for upgrades at Transfer Station. Application will be sent to DES this week. Should take 6-9 months to receive permit.

Rich reported on plans to purchase and introduce new Toters for automated collection.

- Town Council approved purchase of Toters.
- Toters will be distributed before automated collection begins, hopefully before November.
- Survey planned to allow residents to vote for preferred color. 100% recycled black containers will not be offered because they are more brittle and more expensive. Other colors have up to 50% recycled material.
- Education needed about placement of carts and single-stream recycling. Written information will come with Toters, and public meetings will be held. IWMAC participation welcomed. Opportunity to recommend composting to decrease SW.
- Toter will recycle old trash receptacles; residents need to bring them to TS. Susan repeated her request for a sign on Rt. 108 for the TS.
- DPW is still considering outsourcing curbside SW collection.
- Suggestion made for tactile difference between SW and Recycling lids for vision-impaired residents.
- Hope is that volume-based collection will encourage recycling.

Town Council Update by Sally

- Goals completed
- Toter expenditure approved

- Public comments on keeping citizens safe from potential ICE raids and on changes to housing ordinance.

Planning Board Update by Paul

- 121 Technology Drive considering doubling amount of space
- Public hearing on Lodging Houses

Composting Initiative report by Mike

- With help of Susan, Janet, and Erin Hale, grant application was submitted on June 13. Response expected in July.
- Amount of grant requested is \$41,000, augmented by \$4000 from IWMAC budget.
- Grant would allow pilot project for 190 households, approx. 10% of town pickup.
- Black Earth, a Massachusetts based composting company, may be less expensive than Mr. Fox.

Farm Day, August 16

- Sally will be at Laroche Farm with composting information
- David Langley will be discussing composting at 11:00 at his farm. Should IWMAC have presence there?
- Would be a good time to preview DPW changes and discuss pilot program (if we get the grant).
- Nell will look into ordering Farm Day attachment for Sustainable Durham banner on Town Hall. Is it possible to allow for change of date in future years?

Durham Day August 7 @ 5 pm

- Mike and Naomi will be at IWMAC table
- Sally will make more copies of composting brochure
- Naomi will bring toys from Swap Shop
- Sally can loan table; Mike will bring canopy
- Janet will ask Hannaford if they will donate reusable bags
- Susan will provide "Bring your Bag" doorknob hangers
- Consider bringing compost bin and posters

Items to discuss at July 2 meeting

- Revise posters and signage
- Plan Summit for town committees
- Work on information for residents in pilot neighborhood. (If we get grant, we will not have much time to prepare.)

Meeting adjourned

Minutes submitted by Naomi