

**Meeting of SalemRecycles  
Tuesday, January 5, 2016  
120 Washington Street, Salem, MA**

Present: Nancy Gilberg, Carol Hautau, Erin Huggard, Tony Keck, Beth Melillo, Lynn Murray, John Roberts, Julie Rose, Myrna Soper, Flora Tonthat, Susan Yochelson, Gerry Yuras,

Guest: David Holland, Salem Mandatory Recycling Coordinator

Absent: Eva Mossberg, Penny Neal, Liz Vago

The minutes of the November meeting were approved with one correction noting that Erin Huggard had been present at the meeting.

New SalemRecycles Chair Beth Melillo kicked off the meeting at 6:35 pm. A copy of the job description for members of the SalemRecycles committee was sent around for review. Julie Rose requested those present review it and send any updates to her.

David Holland, who is replacing Jeff Cohen as the Mandatory Recycling Coordinator, talked about his background and what he hopes to bring to his new position.

A discussion then followed on the best time to hold a **Styrofoam collection event**. The busiest months for Re-Foam It are May and September so neither the Swap and Drop nor Book Swap would be appropriate events. Instead, it will be tied into the E-Waste collection day on Saturday, June 25th.

**Parking lot topics** were then addressed. The first, Salem Sustainable You, was postponed until the proposer Liz Vago was present to discuss it. The second, Earthships, was deleted as there had been no follow up to the proposal. It was felt that the "How To Recycle Guides" would be an excellent resource for both landlords and new residents. A subcommittee was formed and includes Julie Rose, Tony Keck, Beth Melillo, Lynn Murray and Susan Yochelson. There was some interest in holding a repair event or at least making repair resources known to Salem residents and in drawing up a list of Green Books. These initiatives were both put on hold for later action.

**The article in the Salem News** on the Increase in recycling in Salem under the new program (8%) has received a lot of favorable feedback and bodes well for the future of the new program. It also received the most notice on the SalemRecycles FB page.

**Butt Bin Update** - Myrna Soper reported that she and Jack from Salem Sound Coastwatch went around the City and repositioned a number of the butt bins to make them more visible and accessible to smokers. Jack planned to empty the bins to find out which were being used the most. The subcommittee will be reconvened and discuss how to further publicize the location and use of these bins and inform the public what is being done with the discarded cigarettes. Additional bins may be placed around Salem State. This summer, Salem Sound Coastwatch will again have a cadre of teens

working as part of "Talking Trash for Clean Oceans." Last summer, the teens made a significant contribution to the Butt Bin initiative.

**Book Swap** - the next one will be held on Saturday, March 19th at the Senior Center. *Recycle That* will be responsible for packing up all leftover books.

**Swap and Drop** - will be held on Saturday May 7th. It was suggested that prior to the event, we collect as many cloth recycling bags as possible and make them available to the shoppers at the event.

SalemRecycles FaceBook has 1300 likes.

The next newsletter will describe the procedures for bulk pickups, provide updates on the Butt Bin program, the progress of the new recycling program and other topics.

**GreenSalem website** - has been updated thanks to the efforts of the subcommittee that includes Flora Tonthat, Beth Melillo, Carol Hautau, Nancy Gilberg, and Julie Rose, The engineering department intern, Connor, has been invaluable in his ability to make all the changes. The subcommittee will meet on a more regular basis to update the site and address changing needs.

**Compost Program** - plans need to be made to address the conversion of the program from no-fee to fee. The fee is dependent upon the number of participants that remain in the program. It is expected that it may cost any where from \$7-12 per month to maintain. A subcommittee was formed to address this issue and includes Carol Hautau, Julie Rose, Myrna Soper, Carol Hautau, Flora Tonthat, and Nancy Gilberg.

**Strategic Planning** - SalemRecycles began in March of 2007. It was thought that a review of the committee's mission and goals would be in order at this time. A subcommittee was formed and includes Erin Huggard, Susan Yochelson, Nancy Gilberg, Flora Tonthat, Tony Keck, Beth Melillo and Julie Rose. They will present their recommendations at a future meeting.

The Read Family Science Event will be held on Thursday, April 14th at 5:30 pm. The committee agreed that we should participate at this event. Plans will be firmed up at a future meeting.

**The next monthly meeting will be held on Monday January 25th instead of the regularly scheduled day of Tuesday, February 2nd.**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lynn Murray

