

Salem Recycles Meeting

Tuesday, October 2, 2018, 6:30 at City Council Ante Room at 93 Washington Street

Present - Julie Rose, Tony Keck, Melynn Nuite, Shelby Hypes, Nancy Gilbert, Beth Gillette, Susan Yochelson, Micaela Guglielmi, Liz Vago, Geri Yuhas and Carol Hautau

Absent-John Roberts, Lynn Murray, Erin Huggard

Minutes of the last meeting –September 4, 2018 were approved.

Old Business

September Book Swap on the 29th at the Salem Community Life Center – it went very well about 750 people attended! Everyone loved the new center -it was more spacious and had more tables. We had more tables with books than boxes on the floor.

One issue was it seemed busy around the drop off table – could we put a tape line down to divert traffic away from the drop off table next time? This will help to define an area to bring in books away from the general crowd.

We think it's a good idea to keep the police detail – Bridge St. is very busy, the detail makes people slow down. It was also nice to have a greeter at the corner outside. Next time can we have people guide the cars so the traffic is one way. Let's continue to use St. James church for extra parking. The AmeriCore volunteers were helpful – they want to continue to be involved in this and other events.

9:30 start time – it depends on the event, sometimes we are ready early, sometimes not. Let's keep it as it is for now, if we want to open it early, we always can. We can reevaluate after the next event. At the end there were not a lot of books left – about 3 ½ gaylords were taken away. The bag swap went well, there were not many left at the end – lets continue to do it.

Textile Education – Micaela and Lynn will sit down soon to talk in more detail. Micaela has posted on Facebook and has some things in mind.

New Business

2019 Calendar and 6-panel – The calendars will be going out this month (and the next two months) in all the water and sewer quarterly bills, and the monthly trash bills in December. We will not be mailing the panels because they were expensive and people didn't get them last time. Instead we will put them at public places like the Library and City Hall. Thanks to the volunteer's hard work – the panel was in very good shape and only needed minimal updating.

November 3 Repair Café – the flier list went around and people signed up to hang fliers. We need more tinkerers for knife sharpening, appliances, jewelers etc. Please ask anyone you think may be interested. Shelby said she will sew and bring her machine. Could we have an “ask the expert” at the event – Charlie probably won't be there, but could answer questions about cameras.

Someone mentioned having bikes at the repair café – instead we could include in our Swap N Drop May 4 event for bike tune ups. This would be easier to have it outdoors since bikes are too big to bring into 211 Bridge. Would Boy Scouts be interested in being tinkerers? Maybe some tech savvy kids could be an “ask the expert” for computers. Liz will email Steve Dibble about interest with the Boy Scouts.

2019 Events Calendar – People think the dates will work. Additional dates: June 12th 2019 will be the Volunteer Appreciation Night at Winter Island. The potluck will be July 2th 2019. Julie will check with Rosanna about using the Community Life Center as a backup for rain for the Swap N Drop.

Subcommittee Updates

Butt Bin Program – would the Boy Scouts be interested in adopting a newly placed bin? Does anyone have any ideas for new spots that need a bin? Pickering Warf is private property so there might be issues putting one up there. We will start reaching out to restaurants to sponsor new bins. Can we work with neighborhood associations to identify new locations and adopt them. Susan has adopted a bin at the bus stop on the corner of Lafayette and Harbor.

Trash Reduction – on hold for now, the book mark is not done.

Hauler Ordinance – Voted on and passed. Micaela will get on board for what to look for with dumpsters while out in the field. Trying to pass a new ordinance to give Micaela the authority to fine for items while she is out in the field to speed up the fining process. You can put a free sign on bulk items for 24 hours on your recycling day. It helps to put your ticket number on the bulk items as well. Overstuffed bins shouldn't be picked up – 3 inches overflowing is the maximum accepted.

Litter Reduction/Straw Reduction – At the last Litter Reduction meeting we discussed making an FAQ sheet for litter that evolved into a guide of where to dispose of all types of waste. But who will this reach and will it really be effective? We need to regroup and refocus for the litter reduction group. The beautification committee should be getting more involved. For straw reduction – Lucy will refine Micaela's graphics then they will start talking to restaurants. This might be a good Eagle Scout Project.

GreenSalem.com – All information is updated. We are meeting next week to organize content and Penny will help with graphics. Then we will put together a site map and see what it will cost. Micaela has permissions to edit things on salem.com. The Recycling Committee page on salem.com is very dense – we should work on cutting it back. Micaela will start an Instagram account for SalemRecycles.

Waste Reduction Coordinator Update – Micaela has started rejecting bins with mostly contamination. The biggest issue she still sees is plastic films from food packaging and shipping packaging. She wants to do an event at the Point community room to improve recycling in that area with Laura Assade's help.

Correspondence (Communication Outreach)

Monthly FB updates very close to 2,000 likes – keep inviting your friends to like! Post about the Repair Café being a Salem only event. A clarifying post about cartons – no longer recycling them. A post about plastic films. Posting a photo promoting City Councilors using reusable water bottles

Electronic newsletter – The most recent one that went out was great! Thinking of starting an “ask SalemRecycles” – people can ask questions about things like shredded paper, nips. We can think of questions to ask. At our next event, we should go around and ask people to sign up for our newsletter and

like us on Facebook. The next newsletter could talk about textiles and disposing of Halloween costumes/ decorations.

Blog – It hasn't been updated in a while. There is not a good space on greensalem.com for blogs right now – but the new website will have one. Maybe we could have a space in the Salem Gazette? Liz will work on this.

Action Plan Update – Working with the schools to help with textile education. Micaela can help with the schools.

Other Business

SAFE Pumpkin smash event – composting pumpkins at the end of Halloween. Putting a basketball hoop on the truck to make it a fun event. The Sunday after Halloween at Dead Horse Beach parking lot.

SAFE with BOH – Next Tuesday at 7:00 at the large meeting room at 98 Washington St – they will discuss the health effects of natural gas.

SAFE Fundraising Event at the Hawthorne Hotel Monday the 12th to honor Jeff Barz Snell and his many contributions to sustainability in Salem.

The meeting adjourned at 8 pm. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 6th at 6:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Micaela Guglielmi