

SalemRecycles Committee
Meeting of Tuesday, April 2, 2019

Attendees: Nancy Gilberg, Micaela Guglielmi, Carol Hautau, Shelby Hypes, Tony Keck, Lynn Murray, John Roberts, Julie Rose, Kristin Woodruff, Susan Yochelson, Geri Yuhas

Absent: Beth Gillett, Erin Huggard, Melynn Nuite, Liz Vago

The meeting was called to order. Julie asked that a vote be taken to accept Kristin Woodruff as a new member. The vote was taken - all in favor except for one who voted present. Kristin joined the meeting following the vote.

The minutes from the meeting of March 5th were approved.

Old Business

Book Swap

The Book Swap was extremely successful with 843 in attendance. Everything went smoothly for the most part except for the vendor who did not work out very well. A new vendor – More Than Words has been identified who will come in at the conclusion of the event and clear out all remaining books and other materials. Julie stated that it would be helpful to have a couple of volunteers who could work the entire day for the sake of continuity. It was also suggested that there be clearer signage to identify the parking areas clearly - CLC parking, Condo parking, and Church parking to prevent attendees from parking in the condo spots. Julie requested that any other suggestions be sent directly to her.

New Business

Repair Cafe

The Repair Cafe will be held on Saturday, April 6th at 9 am. Volunteers are asked to arrive at 8 am. Julie stated that there were the most pre-registrations ever for a Repair Cafe. The demand seems to be heavy on the electronics end and not so much for jewelry repair. That could easily change. Gary Gill, who sat in on the meeting, gave the name of a woman who would be interested in helping out with the jewelry repair. Tony reported that there will be sufficient heat during this event.

Sustainable Fashion Event

The Sustainable Fashion event will be held at the PEM on April 13th. It will be an all-day event but the portion that SalemRecycles is participating in will be from 12:30 - 3:00 pm. This will be a textile drive. Julie has some volunteers for this event but certainly additional volunteers are welcome.

Swap and Drop

The Swap and Drop event will be held on the Common on Saturday, May 4th from 9:30 am - 12:30 pm. All committee members are needed to help out at this event. In case of inclement weather, a call will be made at noon on Friday as to whether or not it will be held on the Common. If that happens, the Swap and Drop will be moved to the Community Life Center.

Subcommittee Updates

Butt Bin Committee

A decision has been made to put an “adopted” Butt Bin at the entrance to the Common - closet to the Hotel. The Common is partially non-smoking. Smoking is prohibited in a 50-foot radius around the Gazebo and the Playground area. The location of this Butt Bin will not fall into either of those areas. Many stickers on the Butt Bins have been replaced thanks to the effort of an intern from Salem Sound Coastwatch. If you know of other stickers that need to be replaced, please contact Julie or Micaela.

Mandatory Recycling and Hauler Ordinance

Julie and Micaela met with Dave Greenbaum of the DPW and Recycle Works, a branch of the DEP that works with businesses. Although the ordinance was passed, work is still in progress to get haulers educated and signed up. It is also important to get the Salem Chamber of Commerce involved.

Straw Reduction Committee

Turner Restaurant no longer uses straws. It is important to recognize their efforts and the future efforts of other restaurants. Micaela, Barbara Warren and interns from Salem Sound Coastwatch continue to talk to restaurants to encourage them to get on board with this effort.

School Recycling Grant

Micaela and Julie met with the custodians and learned that the recycling is getting cleaner. New baskets have been delivered to the schools. As a motivator, those leading the recycling efforts at schools get to wear aprons identifying them as such. Julie reported that Doug Cabot produced an excellent video on what is being done in schools recycling-wise.

Waste Coordinator Update

Micaela reports that Waste Management is tackling more of the trash related issues while she is dealing with issues associated with recycling. WM has been stickering and leaving behind overflowing trash. She stated that the biggest problems continue to be plastic bags and wrapping as well as big chunks of styrofoam. Susan asked if there was any way to get landlords to get their tenants to more strictly adhere to recycling guidelines.

Facebook

There are now 2,206 likes for the SalemRecycles FB pages.

Newsletter

A new newsletter was sent out last Thursday night the focus of which was the change within the recycling marketplace and the challenges associated with it. Several committee members reported that they were not receiving the newsletter. It was thought that it might be an issue with Spam.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 30th due to the Swap and Drop. Shelby will take the notes in Lynn's absence. June 12th is the date for the Volunteer Appreciation Night.

Respectfully submitted,
Lynn Murray