

## **SalemRecycles Meeting Minutes November 5, 2019**

Attendees: Micaela Gugliemi, Eric Duffy, Erin Huggard, Melynn Nuite, Beth Gillett, Tony Keck, Shelby Hypes, Carol Hautau, Kristin Woodruff

Absent: Nancy Gilberg, Geri Yuhas, Liz Vago, Susan Yochelson, John Roberts

Approval October 1, 2019 Minutes

### **New Business**

Introduction to Eric Duffy, new Business Manager.

**Textile Drive - November 23** - Erin provided a history of the textile drive. Scheduled for 8-1p, with 2 volunteer shifts (7:45-10:30a-, 10-1:15p). Ideal number of volunteers is 8 per shift (excluding committee mbrs), currently we have 1. Vendor: Helpsy (Sonia Luna) has approved the flyer with list of acceptable items.

- **Action item:** Shelby to ask Julie for AmeriCorps contact person.
- **Action item:** Micaela to send 2nd email to full volunteer list (minus committee).
- **Action item:** Shelby to contact Salem Academy (Stephanie Callahan) for volunteers.
- **Action item:** Carol to contact Salem HS for volunteers.

**Textile recycling task force creation for Simple Recycle** - Beth, Erin, Melynn, and Kristin volunteered. Simple Recycle is a potential new vendor to explore. Services are free to residents, for profit (they sell to other companies), and they pay the city (by weight).

- **Action item:** New task force members to schedule a time to meet.

### **Old Business**

**Repair Café - November 2** - Tony provided an update: we now have a closet for storage, still need to get lock to secure items. The Bridge had table to promote own events. Feedback from committee members: sewing tables against wall provided more light and outlets, wish for additional 'lamp'/electrical tinkerer, message of bringing own parts has been successful. Shelby wondered if parking has been an issue and if we would consider moving - parking has not been reported as a complaint and having at Bridge Cafe meets their mission statement. Melynn asked whether we may consider lengthening - discussion to be continued. Kristin observed opportunity to streamline registration process - discussion to be continued.

Micaela provided feedback from 57 people who attended the Repair Café Nov 2019.

This was one of our busiest café's with 45 people attending in April and 50 in February.

*Was your item fixed?*

Yes - 30      No - 3      Partially - 1      No but got advice on how to - 4      Not possible - 2

*How did you hear about the event?*

Facebook - 10    Email - 7      Friend - 4      Salem news - 4    Book Swap - 3    Newspaper - 3  
Website - 2      Flyer - 2      1 each: Been in the past, YMCA, Salem Sketch, Ace hardware  
flyer, Bulletin in apartment, Word of mouth, Bridge, Previous visit, Next door, Buy Nothing FB Group,  
Drove by sign.

*Suggestions:*

Longer time, Provide donuts sealed, Have more during the year (2), Bigger signs out front, Not right tools, wish she was told what she needed to repair - chair, Sewing classes so we can learn to fix our own,

Heavy duty sewing machine for leather goods and shoe repair, More tables, Sell snacks for fundraising, Advertise at places like Salem Family Health Center and other low income sights, Seems like electrical was busy.

*Feedback:*

Great friendly helpful informative, Wonderful, Very productive and pleasant, "happiness is the repair café and Tony", Unbelievable – so helpful! Fantastic, lots of great help, Third visit, favorable experience, Great job, Always great (4 times she's been), An heirloom now works, Beautiful

*Donations:* \$98

**Next cafe: February 1, 2020**

- **Action item:** Tony to write a blog post re: lamps

**Pumpkin Drop - November 3-** SalemRecycles was enlisted as a support to event by SAFE (Salem Alliance for the Environment). Volunteers: Shelby, Melynn, Carol, Nancy, plus plenty of volunteers from SAFE. Shelby provided feedback from 1st shift: the truck arrived at start time (12p) and needed a 20 min set up, resulting in a line/multiple family waiting, mixed feelings about "success" vs fun. Wish for next time: lower set up for kids/step stool. Melynn provided feedback from 2nd shift - reminded SAFE SalemRecycles is only support and if SAFE wants a co-sponsor in future, committee needs additional time to discuss. Approximately 170 pumpkins (less than last year).

**Task Force Updates**

Butt Bin Recycling (Susan) - move updates to quarterly

Mandatory Recycling/Hauler Ordinance (Geri) - Tuesday, Nov 12 - Micaela and health department meeting with haulers. Melynn inquired what our current role now that ordinance is official. Beth responded that, based on the information shared at previous meetings, the current opportunity is for education only.

School Recycling Grant - (Micaela/Eric) - Ryan monks is new contact in the school facilities department.

- **Action item:** Micaela to call Ryan to discuss how to use the rest of grant money (approx \$1000) by the end of the school year or risk losing it.

**Composting -**

1. Food truck festival - Melynn and Tony met with the mayor to discuss this year's and (potential) future participation. Melynn considers the "beta test" a success. Committee's wish: more coordination/participation from city and to bridge with dept public works. The mayor is in favor of successful relationship, will continue discussion in future. Beth stated a wish: discussion with food truck organizers to have more compostable/recyclable items before agenda and vendors are confirmed. Shelby suggested a potential partner as the community gardens.
  - **Action item:** Micaela to talk with Ellen Talkowski (special projects - coordinates with food truck festival vendors).
  - **Action item:** Task force members (Shelby, Micaela, Carol, Susan) meet in January.
2. Staltonstall School monthly meeting - Carol provided history/background of the "meet and eat" for any Salem resident. Initiated as idea of school system with funding from Eastern Bank and ROOT cooks. Carol participates by enforcing composting. Event is advertised on SalemRecycles social media. Approximately 1 large bag of compost is created each month.

Mattress Recycling (Melynn) - Melynn provided history of this task force. Micaela provided update: potential coordination with UTEC. UTEC would coordinate for a pick up day and the city would have to pay per mattress recycled. Committee discussed whether this is worth pursuing. Melynn provided update from calling Hawthorne Hotel (Hawthorne referred her to Gardner) - legislation coming related mattress recycling (potentially in NY, MA) becoming mandating.

- **Action item:** Micaela to pursue more info from UTEC.

### **Community Outreach**

Waste Reduction Coordinator Update - Micaela continues to notice plastic bags and films frequently while bin checking; a lot of candy wrappers this week. Results from the audit show consistent contamination of plastic bags, this week candy wrappers. Overall, contamination is going down. Micaela, Eric Duffy and Dave Knowlton talked with Waste Management customer service reps and route managers about the increase in delayed trash pick-ups recently caused by frequent truck break-downs and Halloween traffic.

### **Correspondence**

Social Media Update

Electronic newsletter- Multiple committee members commented that they do not get newsletter.

- **Action item:** Micaela to contact Constant Contact to inquire how/why people are not getting Blog - rolled into newsletter now and no longer needs to be separate agenda item.

### **Other Business**

General Committee Announcements -

1. Cheryl Knight (at Repair Cafe) - inquired if we can support "Tailored for success", a pop up to repurpose business clothes for low income individuals. Support as advertising only.
2. Micaela is not available for March 28 Repair Cafe; Eric Duffy will be there.

Meeting closed at 7:45p.