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| **Kimberley Driscoll**  **Mayor** | City of Salem, Massachusetts |

SalemRecycles Minutes

February 2nd, 2021 6:30pm

Attending: Liz Vago, Micaela Guglielmi, Melynn Nuite, Kristin Woodruff, Beth Gillett, Bonnie Bain, Carol Hautau, Erin Huggard, Tony Keck, Geri Yuhas, Nancy Gilberg

Absent: Susan Yochelson

Visitors: Heather Mojer, Daniel Shapiro, Cameron Fullerton

January 2021 Minutes approved by vote.

**New Business**

* March 27 E-Waste Day
  + Micaela stated she is still working on a new location with the vendor.
* April 10 Free Book Day (9a-2p)
  + Micaela anticipates greater participation as she has already heard from people after the newsletter went out. Micaela to create a map of participants. Beth suggested contacting Salem Public Library and Athenaeum to inquire if they want to participate.
  + Liz inquired if it would be possible to collect books after the Free Book Day. Beth suggested contacting “More than Words” at Salem State University. Liz suggested incorporating into the May Textile Day. Beth noted challenges, mainly the drop of items not taken by the vendor, volunteers not able to carry books (physical ability). Nancy suggested [greensalem.com](http://greensalem.com) Recycling A-Z lists what to do with books. Kristin suggested adding a second Free Book Day date (potentially in fall). Nancy inquired about how to increase awareness in the Point, Micaela offered to email Lucy Corchado from Point Neighborhood Association. Bonnie suggested having Laura Assade translate information to Spanish on the city’s official page. Geri offered to talk with The Food Pantry to pass out flyers in the Point.
* May 1 Textiles & TerraCycle (Swiffer and razors) Recycling Day
  + No update
* Summer Repair Cafe
  + Tony discussed with 211 Bridge the potential to use outdoor space, they agreed the courtyard and/or parking lot could be available. Tony raised concern of accessibility to power, 211 Bridge will look into options. Beth inquired if date (and rain date) should be confirmed with 211 Bridge to confirm availability, Beth suggested early-mid June. Beth inquired whether a rain date would be Sunday following the original date or one week later on the following Saturday. Geri inquired about the possibility of setting up sewing machines inside, Tony stated will inquire. Erin inquired about setting up tents to designate space for each table. Nancy inquired if the committee should set a date for November to reserve date. Tony suggested Bridge is not generally busy in November and reserving a date should not be a challenge. Kristin suggested possibly doing a second outdoor repair cafe, possibly in Sept. Micaela suggested eliminating any walk-in appointments.
* Composting promotion
  + Erin suggested doing a promotion to increase composting. Geri mentioned Hamilton has delayed the start of mandatory composting to May. Bonnie confirmed promoting Black Earth and the community composting at Mack Park. Liz suggested reminding people they get compost back. Erin mentioned suggesting neighbors share the cost. Micaela states around 150 community members have signed up online to use Mack Park for composting drop off. Melynn inquired if any of these members would transition to home composting. Nancy suggested highlighting a few composters on social media - at home, Mack Park, pick up. Tony suggested promoting the combo version. Kristin inquired if [Bootstrap Compost](https://bootstrapcompost.com/) might be coming to Salem as it is now in other North Shore communities.

**Task Force- Updates**

* SR Mission Statement
  + Beth stated the subcommittee received results of the Resilience survey and it did not answer the questions we hoped it would. Beth stated the subcommittee met and decided to delay the rewriting mission statement until we have more clarity after COVID-19 is no longer a barrier to waste reduction.

**Community Outreach**

* Waste Reduction Coordinator Update
  + Gail Bernard to be new Municipal Assistant Coordinator from DEP.
  + Beth suggested working with city restaurants to promote more composting, less waste, more recycling. Cameron suggested compostable products are likely too expensive at this time. Beth suggested other possible changes: silverware and glasses (to be washed/reused) vs plastic ware. Kristin suggested this may be up to the Board of Health (rt COVID19) vs up to individual restaurants.
  + Micaela will confirm if Michael Sulprizio, Business Manager plans to attend the next meeting. Beth stated the committee would like to understand what his role will be with the committee going forward.
  + Liz inquired if the City sends out recycling info to new residents and if there has been an uptick in questions about recycling with the new development in Salem. Micaela states new resident guide is sent out with trash/recycling info and she has not noticed an uptick in questions.

**Correspondence**

* Social Media Update
  + Recent topics: do items really get recycled, try to repurpose bulky items (they get trashed when scheduled for WM pick up)
* Electronic newsletter
  + Bonnie stated a draft will be circulated March 3, published March 10. Beth suggested household hazardous wastes would be a good topic to promote. Liz inquired if Salem works with [Recolor Paints](https://recolorpaints.com/), Micaela stated she is not aware of a City partnership.

**Other Business**

General Committee Announcements