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

 SalemRecycles Minutes

Aug 3, 2021 6:30pm

Present: Michael Sulprizio, Kristin Woodruff, Geri Yuhas, Carol Hautau, Shannon Chretien, Beth Gillett, Liz Vago, Cam Fullerton, Nancy Gilberg

Absent: Micaela Guglielmi, Tony Keck, Susan Yochelson, Bonnie Bain, Erin Huggard

June 2021 minutes were approved by roll call vote.

**Old Business**

* Salem Farmers Market - Carol, Micaela, Liz and Bonnie attended. Carol noted many people stopped to talk and ask questions. Carol noted a frequent question was whether the TerraCycle collection will be more permanent and/or collection bins will be located at City Hall. Liz noted people signed up for the newsletter.
* July Meet and Eat at Derby Wharf - Carol, Nancy, and Susan composted the food scraps and compostable plates and utensils and recycled water bottles.
* Michael Sulprizio - Business Manager for the City - introduced himself and his role with the City of Salem.
* Beth inquired of what the impact of lack of Chairperson means. Michael noted as long as the Vice Chair is willing to step in until the role is filled / for the short term, there is not a problem. Michael noted Micaela is working to fill the role and is in discussions with committee members.

**New Business**

* September Free Book Day - Saturday, Sept 18 (rain date Sunday, Sept 19). Carol noted community members are able to register with Micaela to be part of the Free Book Day. Michael noted the Community Life Center is not available on that date. Liz inquired whether there will be a vote to an in-person event in the future. Nancy noted a resident suggested a school with a covered outdoor area that may be an option in the future. Nancy requested adding a type of book when registering for the event. Nancy suggested the categories to be fiction, non-fiction, children’s books. The committee agreed this may be a good idea. Shannon requested a clarification for how to view events; Nancy provided clarification.
	+ Action event: Add spring book event to September agenda to start discussion early.
* Fall Repair Cafe - Carol noted Nov 6 is not available at the Bridge. Liz suggested contacting “tinkerers” to determine the comfort level of participating. Beth clarified that was done previously when the discussion was for an outdoor event. Beth also suggested whether the event could be moved to the Community Life Center. Nancy suggested an alternative date of Saturday November 13 is waiting to be confirmed by the Bridge. Kristin suggested considering other details: how many people will be in the room at one time, will masks be required. Geri suggested the Board of Health may issue a mask recommendation. Michael inquired whether a reservation will be needed. Geri agreed moving to a new location would be beneficial to the event. Liz agreed and reminded the committee of the relationship the Bridge has had with the committee. Geri suggested noting the event is also sponsored by Bridge. Kristin suggested eliminating serving food and suggesting that community members only come at their reservation time.
	+ Action item: Inquire if the Community Life Center is available either date in November.
	+ Action item: Confirm with Micaela if December 4 has been confirmed with the Bridge.
* Fall Textile Drive - November 20 (Riley Plaza) - Beth inquired if this event would be as busy with the weekly Helpsy pick up. Michael noted the weekly pick up has increased, he is not sure to what extent. Shannon suggested keeping the fall event and comparing it to previous events. Beth inquired if there might be a challenge staffing the volunteers (specifically committee members) with 2 events in the same month. Liz noted there has not been a challenge in the past.
	+ Action item: Confirm date with Helpsy.
* Food Truck Festival composting - Sept 25-26 - Carol noted hesitancy with organizing the event / volunteers at the time. Kristin suggested asking volunteers a tiered response: definitely not, definitely yes, it depends on how things play out. Nancy suggested this event would require one or more committee members to manage the volunteers. Carol noted she had done this in the past and is not comfortable at this time. Kristin inquired if Black Earth would be present without the committee available. Beth, Geri, and Carol suggested this would not be beneficial as the risk for contamination is too high.
	+ Action item: Skip this year, consider in future years.
* TerraCycle collection - Carol noted a lot of interest in expanding / making this more permanent.
* Batteries
	+ Action item: Deferred discussion, move to next month.
* Composters / Rain Barrels - Carol noted the City has both available. Michael noted Great American Rain Barrels are available through DPW. Shannon inquired of the process. Michael clarified the city of Salem website is the place to get information, residents can call DPW to order one.
	+ Action item: Michael will confirm the price to the committee members.
* Calendar of events - Nancy noted a full year of events has been tentatively noted for planning purposes; inquired whether to discuss next month. Kristin suggested adding non-contact events and leaving high contact events off a calendar.

**Community Outreach**

* Waste Reduction Coordinator Update
	+ Committee potluck: Tuesday Aug 10 at 6:30p at Winter Island Function Hall. Please contact Micaela to RSVP and/or bring an item.
	+ Ed Pacek from Waste Management will come to the September meeting. Michael noted the cost of recycling is coming down.
	+ Gail Bernard will attend the November meeting. Liz noted she is a regional coordinator.

**Correspondence**

* Social Media Update
	+ Per Nancy: FB 2,845 followers. Most popular posts: pictures of events, composting. Upcoming events: September e-waste, September Free Book Day. Nancy requested emailing both Nancy and Shannon with any social media post suggestions.

* Electronic newsletter
	+ Bonnie will start working on August newsletter

**Other Business**

* General Committee Announcements
	+ Carol noted she and Geri will be at the Ice Cream Bowl to support composting.
	+ Carol noted she will participate in the August Eat and Meet at Derby Wharf at 7pm to support composting.
	+ Beth inquired about in-person meeting status. Michael explained that the City is moving all meetings to a hybrid model, allowing committee members and the general public to attend in-person or by utilizing a "Zoom room". Since the technology set-up probably won't be ready in September, we should schedule another Zoom meeting for one more month.
	+ Nancy noted the monthly Salem Woods walk at 9am for a 90 min walk.