

# **Salem Recycling Committee**

## **DRAFT Meeting Minutes, May 2, 2023**

### **Recycling Committee Mission Statement**

The mission of SalemRecycles, a committee appointed by the Mayor, is to reduce trash tonnage in the City of Salem by increasing recycling, diverting reusable items, and motivating city stakeholders through education and information.

### **Attending**

Joel Dashnaw Chair, Carol Hautau Vice Chair, Jen Birenbach Secretary/Clerk, Janelle Rolke, City Liaison, Mari Alix, Bruce Cohen, Demi Fox, Nancy Gilberg, Sandy O'Donnell, Lucy Patrowicz, Geri Yuhas  
Absent: Cameron Fullerton, Brian Romer, Catherine Deyo

### **Welcome New Members**

Mari Alex, Catherine Deyo, Sandy O'Donnell, Lucy Patrowicz

Introductions between Committee Members

Members come from a variety of Salem neighborhoods and interests overlap in various ways

### **Welcome & Introductions**

Welcome new committee members:

Mari Alix, Catherine Deyo, Daniell Hepting, Sandra O'Donnell, Lucie Patrowicz, Brian Romer

### **Ongoing Business**

#### **Month 2023 Minutes**

Motion to approve: Jen Birenbach

Second: Geri Yuhas

Approved - no objections or abstentions

### **Upcoming Events: Updates & Tasks - Janelle**

May 13 10-1: Living Green Expo - Recycling table

Volunteers: Janelle, Nancy - others welcome

Janelle explained what Recycling discusses, gives out information, has a bean bag toss game

Encourage compost since BlackEarth won't be attending- ie: free composting at Mack Park or curbside pick up through BlackEarth or discounted backyard composting bins on sale at DPW

Sometimes it's the basics of curbside recycling

May 18, (Thurs, 6-8pm) Farm to School @Carlton School, Salem

Volunteering: Janelle attending with bean bag toss, Carol is collecting food waste for compost, and , Catherine can attend, Daniell is checking if she can attend

The school has partnered with the Farm to School program

Open to the public, not just school families

Role: composting food waste at this event

May 20, 9-12: Repair Cafe & TerraCycle Collection, Community Life Center

Volunteering: 4/19: Janelle & Sandy

5/20: Janelle, Check-In: Geri, Carol & Sandy; Floaters needed, Photos - Demi & Lucie signed up

Set up 5/19 4-5pm: about an hour- set up tables with numbers, Janelle brings boxes of supplies like power strips, knife sharpeners, shoe glue, lamp parts, etc

Mike Birenbach can be a knife sharpener

Action: Janelle to email the flyer to committee members

May 31 after school: Saltonstall Sustainability Family Event, for their school families

Recycling Education and Composting

Volunteering: Joel, Catherine and Daniell

June 10, 10-1: Swap 'N' Drop & TerraCycle Collection, Salem Common

ReSupply will be collecting all leftovers

Volunteers: TBD, Janelle to reach out to the volunteer list, need at least a dozen

Clear Do's and Don'ts list - Janelle & Nancy will create a clear list for participants

Note that all items brought to the event need to be of good enough value that others will want to bring it home and use it- consider that these items will be given to your neighbors

Rain or Shine? Shine Only event, no rain date

Categories will determine the number of tarps needed, Signs are in the basement

Set up tarps by category, donors bring their items, some deliver their items to tarps most drop & go, volunteers deliver to tarps

PR: Salem Neighborhood Association can help

Food or Music? Maybe not

Water for volunteers (Jen can bring a cooler)

**New Business**

Committee Communication: Methods & Practices

Google Group - prefixes: [INFORM], [ACTION], [URGENT]

It was created to make it easier to share with the committee

Emeritus members have been allowed to stay on

Open Meeting Laws: we can't make decisions over email, it's best to err on tabling it to meeting times

Alumni Google group? Newsletter email list?

Remove alumni from Google Group? Not many people? Perhaps send out an annual email asking if they want to remain.

Janelle working with new members to get them onto Google Group

Committee Member Contact Info & Ward List

Jen will collect contact phone and email directly from members this week & send it out to the committee directly - included will be phone, if texting is ok, email, and any time-related boundaries

Committee Management- discussion tabled for next meeting due to limited time left in the meeting

Joel summarized the discussion for the committee to think about until June meeting

-Committee Size      -Term Limits and Length      -Subcommittees  
We have had sub-committees on an as-needed basis in the past

Recycling black Containers - TerraCycle will accept them

The Rubbermaid program is active on the SalemRecycles TerraCycle account (Janelle is printing labels from both her person and the SalemRecycles accounts to try to keep up with volume.)

We can recycle all brands of reusable plastic and glass food storage containers, including #5 takeout containers, through this program. This program does not accept single-use branded food packaging like yogurt or sour cream containers, margarine tubs, etc.

Nathan Gray, Plastic Recycled - he has a collection bin at Salem High School, he collects rigid plastics - he accepts black plastic, but not sure we can send the public to the high school to drop off plastic

**Correspondence** - tabled until June Meeting or announcement emails from Janelle

Electronic Newsletter: April / Earth Day Topics/Content

If members see information for the Newsletter- please forward it to Janelle for the Newsletter

Open Time: General Announcements & Guest Participation Welcome

Geri is stepping down from the committee effective today, the committee thanked her for her time.

Next Up

Think about committee best practices

Jen to send out Salem information and repair cafe form

Topic for next meeting: Repair Cafe data recording - what's needed