

Meeting Minutes October 21, 2019

Attendees:

Gary Stewart; Bob Kerry; Richard Darveau; Duane Himes; Paul Margolin; Joy Muller

Agenda: October 21, 2019

Acceptance of September 2019 Meeting Minutes

Accepted

Adopt-a-Road Program Update

Bob reported he conferred with Assistant Town Manager Lisa Drabik about the potential liability of the Town promoting roadside cleanup projects. Lisa suggested the copy of the sign not mention the Town, but rather say something like "Bosch Technologies proudly supports litter cleanup of Wentworth Ave". DPW and/or Beautify Londonderry should be able to cover the expense of the sign. Paul asked: What is the optimum size of the sign? Bob will check into Town requirements for sign placement, size, and installation procedures. Paul assumes the company would commit to cleaning the street—picking up litter—on a regular basis. To date, Bosch is the only company that has made a request for recognition like this. Paul - What about Stonyfield for clean-up of a street (i.e. Burton Drive)? Maybe we could post an article in the paper or somehow encourage other companies to do something similar, with or without recognition, particularly for sites with litter problems.

Bob reported that the recycling poster Joy's Girl Scout group created for Old Home Day is currently on display in the DPW office.

Paul reported he worked with Town Clerk Sherry Farrell to place a small blue recycle cart with signage in the first floor lobby of Town Hall to promote not putting plastic bags in the recyclables bin. The plan is to leave it in place for 4 or 6 weeks, and then again periodically after the Holidays. The committee visited the bin in the lobby and endorsed the idea of possibly changing the display to the large size blue bin after the holidays.

Bob said that Waste Management stated that the Town of Londonderry does a relatively good job of recycling curbside, but they are not currently staffed to be able to notify residents who are putting significant non-recyclable items in their bins. The committee should continue efforts to keep getting the word out to the public about proper recycling (i.e. keeping plastic bags and film out of the blue bins), and to Waste Management (via Bob) about significant examples of improper items found in the carts. We should continue to make WM aware of the many measures we are taking to educate the public on this matter.

Joy presented her video on the hazardous waste collection day. The Committee made a few suggested revisions. Joy will revise as soon as possible, well before the November 23rd HHW collection event, and will update the Committee. Ideas for promoting the event and the video: Make links available on the

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web pages. Also scroll it on the cable channel. Also, it shall go on the two Town face book sites. Joy reported the Girl Scout group is also working on a video on no plastic bags in the recycling. It possibly may be ready for the December meeting.

Bob reported the Town has begun the fourth year into trash and recycling collection contracts (July 2019-June 2020) with Waste Management. Waste Management had requested a renegotiation of the recycling contract due to the significant reduction in commodity values and increases in processing costs. Recognizing the future costs of trash and recycling will continue to increase, the Town negotiated an amendment which extends both the trash and recycling contracts an additional 3 years through June 30, 2026 and provides favorable terms and pricing for the Town. The amendment was approved by the Town Council and executed on 10-8-19.

A discussion followed concerning the future of solid waste management and disposal. Bob mentioned that the nation should pursue more trash energy plants again. Paul said that the initial implementation of these types of plants was not well thought out and caused problems for many towns. For the process to work, the waste to energy plant will need guarantees of material delivery from suppliers and adequate environmental safeguards.

Bob mentioned the status of recyclable values. The August 2015 blended commodity value was approximately \$66 per ton. The August 2019 blended commodity value has fallen to approximately \$24 per ton. It is Waste Management's policy not to dispose of recyclables into landfills. Glass now costs approximately \$50 per ton to process.

Paul revisited the archived going green columns Bob had identified as now having inaccuracies in listed acceptable recyclable materials. The following was clarified: Blisterpacks- remove plastic and recycle the cardboard. No longer able to take plastic flower pots curbside. Flower pots, 5 gallon pails and plastic toys can be taken to the drop-off center. Paper beverage containers should not be recycled. Only plastic cups – neither the lid or the straw should be included. Plastic bags or plastic film can be dropped off by residents at the grocery stores. No plastic utensils. Paul will update the archived columns.

November / December Meeting Dates

Due to Holidays and schedule conflicts, Lynn proposed to combine both meetings into one final 2019 meeting on December 2 or December 16. The committee decided on December 2nd. Then the next meeting shall be January 13th.

Action Item Status

Actions

1. Bob- Update on credit card usage at the Drop Off Center Bob – nothing new. The center shall be closed for the winter after Saturday November 23rd.

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2. Bob to get back to committee with the maximum size of the “adopt a road” signs, along with material and placement preferences.
3. Joy Working with Erin Brodman at the Access Center this month to complete revisions to the HHW Day video. In process
4. Paul is working on Bob's request for two recycling column updates. In process
5. Lynn- Check with Hannaford’s about their reusable grocery bag program and parking lot signs. On hold
6. Lynn- Consider producing a PSA on blue bags (Change to posting blue bin does and don’ts on Social Media) On hold

Meeting adjourned at 8:50