

Solid Waste Committee Meeting Minutes 07-06-20

Present: Jon, Tom, Kinder, Harvey, Dave & Paul

The budget will be voted on July 14, and it includes half a year of curbside recycling, so the plan is to start at the beginning of January. The cost is \$74,000 for half a year (a full year is \$148,000). The pickup will be every other week and every week in Dock Square and Goose Rocks Beach for 10 summer weeks. Note: The Recycling budget for summer '21 would have to be approved in a town meeting in early June 2021.

We discussed the Educational efforts that will be needed and agreed that they should start by November. Jon will speak to Laurie to see whether we can piggyback with a notice in the tax bill and whether the quarterly newsletters will be sent out. A separate mailing would be great for all taxpayers, but we want to be responsible fiscally. Also, it was agreed that we should have a launch for January and another for next summer when the summer visitors will be paying more attention.

Assuming the budget is approved, Jon/Mike will reach out to EcoMaine to get their current marketing/educational materials. Not discussed, but Paul suggests we all look at their website before our next meeting because most of their materials are there as PDFs.

A table at Election Day in November was suggested, but we will wait to see where the election will be held to decide whether it would be staffed or not. Kinder volunteered. Paul will look at the timeline we developed for this summer and will revise and adjust for the new timeline.

We should consider how particularly to educate summer renters: Refrigerator magnets? Not discussed, but we had talked about stickers on garbage pails since we won't provide specific recycling bins. They can be a good educational tool as well for summer folks.

Tom asked how much has our solid waste tonnage gone up, and we discussed how this year's data would likely not tell us much because of all the demographic and business changes from COVID. Jon will get data from Mike. Paul asked whether it could be broken out by the waste the town collects directly as well as the tonnage that comes in from private haulers and commercial haulers.

Finally, on the Compost Bins, we discussed the difficulty of their usage because they are so tall. Paul recalled from our discussions with Mike that they are designed to be filled and left alone for a year, which is unlike the smaller bins where you can make compost in a few weeks. Kinder mentioned they are too tall to turnover with a pitchfork. Not discussed but an afterthought — as we distribute more, we should set expectations with clear directions for use (maybe we got these? Can't recall).

Another afterthought, for our next meeting, we should give notice and allow residents to join by zoom. Doubt many will come, but we should be transparent in our discussions.

Submitted by Paul Hogan, Sec.