

Meeting Minutes

Cleaner Greener Hingham / Long Range Waste Disposal and Recycling Committee

Tuesday, March 1, 2022, 7:00 pm via Zoom

In attendance: Janice McPhillips/Maria Zade/Mark Engel/Alyson Anderson

Absent: Katie Gallacher

1. Update on potential single-use plastic bylaw

There are currently 13 municipalities with plastic bag bans, and more than 10 towns with single use plastic water bottle bans (including Concord, Sudbury, New Barrington, and Falmouth). The committee decided that we should plan for proposing a new bylaw at Town Meeting in 2023, so would need to have a bylaw written and a warrant article submitted by January 2023. This will need a lot of community input and so we should start working on this project immediately.

After discussions with Hingham's Board of Health it is clear that any ban will be hard to enforce. However if CGH was willing to do education and socialization, the committee was comfortable with understanding that any ban would need to be developed to be self-policing and with the intent of making improvements regardless of enforcement. BOH was interested in hydration stations and willing to send out information we provide so the more work done by the committee to educate the easier it will be for BOH.

Mark spoke with several other town Boards of Health. None had any problems with enforcement.

Education could be done with events, scavenger hunts, maps, a flyer sent out with water bills, social media, Hingham Anchor, Blind water tasting, etc.

Committee agreed more research was needed in regards to:

- Potential cost per hydration station
- How to educate the community

Action: **Mark** - to provide details on other towns as case study to help show positive impacts and lack of enforcement required to help gain Board of Health support.

Maria: Ask Rick Swanson about expenses of current hydration stations at HHS

Janice: Contact Russ Tierney to ask if WRSW could install hydration stations

2. Update on CGH Handbook

Katie has made updates and added lots of information to the handbook. There are a few outstanding areas to fill in.

Action: Maria - to ask Adcom for specific meeting verbiage (opening, closing, etc.)

Katie to send out requests for additional information as needed, with view to send out a final version for review before the next meeting.

3. Review Annual Report

Draft provided for input and will be finalized and completed.

Action: Maria

4. Review Reuse Guide

Updated with comments from committee; Voted to move ahead

Action: Maria will send to town council for approval then to HMLP to include with bills, post on website and on social media

5. Collaboration with 143 Exchange

On Nov. 1, 2022 there will be a textile ban, mattresses and food scrap ban and update going into place for the state. Education around this upcoming ban and what can and can't go in trash will be needed.

Action: Maria Create separate guide for education document focused on textiles along with Anchor article

The committee discussed working with 143 Exchange on a joint event in the spring. We would collect items in Hingham and drop off to 143. This would require members to work with them to sort the donations to learn the process. We would then promote the event and see how it worked to determine if something similar could take place in Hlgham.

Discussion was that is may be best to focus around a specific item or theme (i.e. women's clothing or halloween costumes)

Action: Maria to ask if we could use retail collection points. If so then **Alyson** to reach out to Downtown Association and see if there were any suitable locations.

6. Calendar of Monthly Events - review and updates

Childrens' Event - 'Make a Worm Bin' set for Wed, 4/20 at 10:30am at the library in the Whiton Room. **(Janice)**

Town Wide Clean Up - Katie has reached out to the Girl Scout group organizer to see whether the weekend after Earth Day (23/24 April 2022) would be a good date to start planning towards.

HHS Sneaker Collection - post on social once HHS Green Team shares info. Would not

qualify for RDP as not a “re-use” event. - Alyson

April - Outdoor Movie event - Action:Katie to follow up with Derby Street and the Shipyard about running this event (email sent 11/23/21)

May - Hazardous Waste Collection organized by South Shore Recycling Cooperative (SSRC) Action: Janice to email Claire Galkowshi (director@ssrcoop.info) to add Maria to the email distribution list

7. Items not reasonably anticipated 48 hrs in advance

- Still taking orders for compost bins from DPW
- Get on schedule for Hingham Farmers market to have table for composters sales (Janice)
- Brianna Bennett HMLP sustainability coordinator - Maria/Janice to contact to talk about food waste/composting site
- Janice to contact Katie Hartmann about an all school green team meeting. Will get updates on state of recycling to share.
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8. Review of Action Items from Previous Meeting

All covered above

9. Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the January 19th 2022 meeting were approved

Next meeting: Tuesday 5th April 2022 at 7pm via Zoom

Respectfully submitted, Katie Gallacher