



## ***Recycling Sustainability Committee***

### ***Minutes***

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Tuesday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2019

5:30pm

Hudson Town Hall, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Conference Room

***Committee members: Steven Sharek (chair) Michael Delfino (vice chair), Sean Frey, Jacqueline Gillis, Jillian Jagling, Fred Lucy II, Kathryn Nardoza***

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#### **New business**

- 1. Call Meeting to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 5:30pm. All committee members were present, except for Fred Lucy. Also present was Kelli Calo (Director of Public and Community Health), Irene Congdon (MassDEP rep), and John Melillo (resident).
- 2. Approval of Minutes of March 26, 2019:** Sean Frey motioned to approve the minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Michael Delfino. All in favor 6-0.
- 3. Update on Webpage and External Communications:** Sean Frey and Kelli Calo are working on creating a page for the RSC on both the Town website and the Health Department website. This website will be used to update residents about the progress of the RSC. Sean Frey explained that the RSC can create a domain name “sustainablehudson.org” that will link individuals who visit that site back to the Health Department’s page. The committee agreed that the Town webpage should link to the Health Department webpage which SustainableHudson.org will redirect to. Further, the Health Department webpage should include a link to [www.recyclesmartma.org](http://www.recyclesmartma.org) and include Committee Agendas and Minutes. Michael Delfino made a motion to create the domain name “sustainablehudson.org”. The motion was seconded by Jillian Jagling. All in favor 6-0.
- 4. Review Updated Results of “Hudson Trash and Recycling Survey”:** Sean Frey shared with the RSC some data points from the survey results:
  - a. 2972 responses were collected
  - b. Aggregate average residents pay for trash (excluding apartments/condos): \$410.40/year
  - c. Average for those who participate in curbside pickup: \$561/year

- d. Average number of 13-gallon garbage bags discarded per week (excluding apartments/condos): 3.4 bags/week or 43.7 gallons/week
- e. Average “willing to pay” for town-wide curbside pickup: \$297/year
- f. Percentage of individuals that would continue to use the transfer station with a town-wide curbside pickup program: 41%

**5. Discuss Process for Decision-Making by the Committee/Next Steps:** Jillian Jagling made a motion to make a recommendation to the Board of Health to keep the transfer station open for residents, regardless of the final RSC recommendation. The motion was seconded by Sean Frey. All in favor 6-0.

Decisions that need to be made by the RSC for the final recommendation:

- How to sign residents up? Opt-in or Opt-out
- Size of containers
- Frequency of pickup (bi-weekly or weekly)
- Cost per year
- Billing system
- Grant money allotted
- Considerations of special discounts for senior citizens and veterans
- Whether the program will require residents to buy bags if the amount of their trash exceeds the size of the trash container provided. If so, how much will the bags cost and how will they be sold?
- The type of trash and recycling truck that will be required
- Dates of required public hearings
- Site visits to the transfer station and/or to other communities with similar recycling programs

The RSC discussed the requirement to hold 2 public forums. It was determined that the first public forum will occur in June, 2019. The RSC also discussed the need to visit the transfer station and curbside pick-up programs in the Commonwealth that would be similar to the desired structure in Hudson.

On a motion made by Michael Delfino and seconded by Jillian Jagling, the Committee voted to ask Town Counsel to issue an opinion about the legal limitations, if any, regarding the selection of a vendor for curbside trash and recycling pickup. It was noted that the letter should, among other things, ask about the maximum length of such an agreement and the process for contract approval. The vote was 6-0. The chair said he would assist Ms. Calo in drafting the letter.

- 6. Review BP data:** Kelli Calo shared data from BP.
- a. Curbside Pick-up: Currently, BP is serving 275 households in Hudson with curbside pickup. Current rates for the program are \$45/month.
  - b. Annual Report: Kelli Calo explained the amount of waste that is generated at the transfer station from Hudson residents.

- Yard waste: 2920 cubic yards
- Glass: 61.22 tons
- Plastic: 40.28 tons
- Newsprint: 179.53 tons
- Corrugated: 89.50 tons
- Tin: 13.34 tons
- MSW: 1209.93 tons

**7. Updates on Other Assigned Tasks:**

- a. *Complete data sorting (Sean Frey/Kelli Calo)*- Data is in the final stages of being sorted. Sean Frey and Kelli Calo will work on completing this and creating an executive summary sheet.
- b. *Create website/page for the RSC (Kelli Calo/Sean Frey)*- The Town website will be used as a standard committee page, and the Hudson Health Department's page will host more in-depth information.
- c. *Send out Hauler Regulation to the RSC and look into the mechanism for requiring individuals to recycle (Kelli Calo)*- Hauler Regulation was distributed to the RSC.
- d. *Send out PowerPoint of Solid Waste Options and Marketing to RSC (Irene Congdon)*- Irene Congdon sent to Kelli Calo prior to the meeting and it will be sent out to the RSC.
- e. *Provide RSC members with sample contract language between a hauler and a Town for trash collection and recycling (Irene Congdon)*- Irene Congdon sent to Kelli Calo prior to the meeting and it will be sent out to the RSC.

**8. Assign Tasks for Next Meeting:**

- a. Complete data sorting and create an executive summary sheet (Sean Frey/Kelli Calo)
- b. Update website and Facebook (Kelli Calo/Sean Frey)
- c. Research possible billing structure (Kelli Calo)
- d. Inquire about reaching out to Town Counsel (Kelli Calo)
- e. Narrow down dates and locations for first public forum (Michael Delfino/Kelli Calo)

**9. Next Meeting:** Tuesday, May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2019 at 5:30pm and Tuesday, June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 5:30pm.

**10. Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 7:04pm.