Christine Zadykowich, Chair
Orlando Corona, Vice Chair
Linda Corona, Member
Joyce Kutzer, Member
Mary McDonald, Member
Joyce Kutzer, Member
Brian Plasko, Alternate
Deanna Savage, Alternate
David Tapscott, Liaison Board of Health



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Minutes of Recycling and Sustainability Committee August 14, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 6:15 PM

Present:

Christine Zadykovich, Chair
David Tapscott, Liaison to Board of Health
Joyce Kutzer, Member
Linda Corona, Member
Mary McDonald, Member
Orlando Corona, Vice-Chair (joined meeting at ~ 7:00)

RSC event at library

This event was well attended for August and some good contact were made. A list of Friends of the RSC was generated. It was suggested that having a circle of sharing around certain topics, such as composting, would be interesting to pursue. The Library's upstairs would be more temperate in the fall, although accessibility is a problem. A quarterly meeting/circle schedule was created.

Fall	November 5	Home Energy efficiency	Mass Save
Winter	February 4	non-toxic cleaning	Green Cleaning Coach
Spring	May 6	composting	expert (Mary Helfrich)
Summer	August 5	green habits for school	Green Team

Action:

Orlando will contact library about dates
Christine will contact MassSave about presentation of energy efficiency
Mary will contact local person(s) about green cleaning
David will contact Mary about composting

Boxborough/Acton's "Power Down" program and Green Teams

We agreed that this was worth pursuing, starting out with some elements of the program. Involving each school, perhaps through their Green Teams, and making the elements chosen age appropriate for each school was endorsed. Gauge interest of the students and their Green Team leaders is important at the start. The curriculum director important to get on board also. The coordinating body was three GT leaders and curriculum director. We will wait for the new administration to come on board before we approach them, but do this early in the school year.

Action:

Taft GT leader is Mary McDonald an she will pursue this at Taft Whitin GT leader is Mary Ellen Jansson. Linda will talk to her and others at Whitin. UHS GT leader is the art teacher and David will talk to this person at HS

BOH report

 The energy audit done through Central Mass Regional Planning was reviewed. Surprising results included lots of electrical cost by UHS, due to inappropriately operating controls. This is being addressed.

Action:

David will find out who is responsible for plans to reduce energy

 The municipal contract status was reviewed. Kristing and Orlando and David have met with Irene from DEP and are working to sift through the experiences of other towns, review a model contract, and explore the methods of financing such a program with cost comparisons. An enterprise fund may be placed on the warrant for fall town meeting.

Action:

David will try to determine what happens to bins already owned by residents and/or provided by present haulers.

3. A joint session of RSC, BOH and BOS will likely happen in the spring. Kristin has kept appropriate town officials notified of status of municipal contract exploration.

School Grant

It is not clear who will be in charge of grant, since Rich Drolet, who filled this role, has departed. Reusable trays for Whitin and Taft have been purchased to replace styrofoam.

Action:

Mary will contact new Superintendent about this and find out status of water filling stations also.

Beautify Uxbridge

The idea of adopting a site, such as a flower container on a traffic island was discussed. We would "adopt a pot". This might be used as a place where RSC activities were posted. Space on the Town Common was also mentioned.

Action:

Christine CZ volunteered to explore this.

Local Businesses

It has been difficult to connect with Hannaford. Ideas discussed were stainless steel straws in restaurants, using deposits on reusable glasses/mugs for takeout, and using compostable items such as paper straws.

Action:

We (who?) will form a subcommittee to explore this, perhaps engaging Friend of RSC.

Mary will continue to contact Hannaford management for a sit down meeting.

Newsletter via email

This should be a quarterly snapshot of what is going on in RSC. It could include special articles about topics such as citizen action, business practices, and government. Mary's article on FB about businesses would be a good start.

Action:

Christine will set up templates and each of us can contribute a brief topical paragraph length article which would include links to further references.

Friends of RSC

A list was generated at yesterday's event at the Library. This needs to be expanded as a "call to action"

Action:

David will create an email list to include those who signed up at Green Communities presentation in the early spring. He will also visit the senior center.

First night

Orlando spoke with people who run this event, and offered discussed the RSC helping clean up litter. Also discussed were the ideas of giving out backpacks and inserting an RSC flyer. participating in the parade as trash and recycling elves, to educate parade watchers in how to dispose of their waste.

Action:

Orlando will contact them about these ideas.

Reassessment of membership

There was discussion of who had received letters of reappointment to the RSC and whether the oath of office needed to be taken again. The RSC was likely appointed for just one year and this is why this process has been put in place. Christine thought that this was a good time for everyone to reassess their interest and commitment to continuing to work on the RSC as a member/alternate.

David will send out email about reassessing each person's interest in continuing, and about the status of the reappointment.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting, and passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05

Christine Zadykovich, Chair_

Orlando Corona, Vice-Chair_

Linda Corona, Member

Mary McDonald, Member_

Joyce Kutzer, Member_

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