Christine Zadykowich, Chair Orlando Corona, Vice Chair Linda Corona, Member Mary Mc Donald, Member Joyce Kutzer, Member David Tapscott, Liaison to Board of Health



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The meeting was called to order in the Uxbridge High School Cafeteria area (Classroom B103 was not accessible) at 6:15

Present:

Christine Zadykovich, Chair

Orlando Corona, Vice Chair

Linda Corona, Member

Mary McDonald, Member

David Tapscott, Liaison to the Board of Health

## **Committee Status and Organization**

A citizen's petition on the Town warrant for the October meeting is calling to rescind a previous Town Meeting vote which established an account for handling the waste and recycling operation. It seems the petition was created to block any means of creating a voluntary municipal contract for waste and recycling. There has been no progress on the contract's creation. Waiting for a new Town Manager was deemed by the Board of Health before moving ahead to be prudent. The grant from the DEP for curbside carts has been extended.

Katie Dugan has not been in touch with the Chair about her intentions. Her email today bounced back.

The issue of the RSC becoming a standing committee was not discussed at this time.

Action: David will try to get in touch with Katie to determine her interest.

## **Board of Health Report**

The status of the municipal contract is noted above. The Board of Selectmen are on the verge of entering into an energy aggregation contract with Good Energy. This will not only likely reduce cost of electricity but will allow residents to choose more options for having their electricity come from renewable sources.

# **Recycling Programs**

1. Exhausted Recycling Inc. (Worcester): Mary spoke with the company's owner. They will take base metals such as copper and iron, precious metals, and a variety of household items such as computers, processors, car parts, lamps, wires, and car batteries. There can be payment for some of these items. Live ammunition or mercury is not accepted. An list detailing what they will take is not available. They have worked with municipalities, garden clubs, schools, and recycling drives. They work with a Swedish company who originated the e-recycling process. It is apparently a pollution free process.

Action: RSC members will visit the company in Worcester on our own

2. Simple Recycling: David checked out the website but has not explored this further. They do curbside collection of textiles.

Action: David will pursue

#### 3. Composting:

- a. City Compost: Orlando checked this out. They offer educational programs, consulting with municipalities and businesses, a variety or curbside residential options, etc. They take all food items including bones and greasy stuff and compostable paper items such as paper towels. Newsprint is discouraged because of the use of colored ink.
- b. Black Earth: They do not come to Uxbridge. They have a well-developed municipal program in Natick which might be used as a model for Uxbridge
- c. Medway has a municipal composting program which combines curbside and a facility.
- d. Garbage to Garden is another company which does not come to Uxbridge.

Action: Christine will check out Medway
Orlando will pursue City Compost

### **Green Teams and School Grant**

It is not clear if there is a Green Team leader for Whitin School yet. Wendy Phillips has not called a meeting of Green Team faculty leaders yet this year.

Mary has contacted Superintendent Tiano about a school wide recycling program and has not heard back yet. The interest of principals at various schools was discussed. There was enthusiasm last year by Zack, from the facilities staff of the schools.

Action: Mary will pursue

### **Terracycle**

Local dentists have been approached about their interest in participating in a toothbrush recycling program, one of the Terracycle campaigns. There has been interest from one practice but not another.

\$25 dollars was received on the last shipment from Christine, and there is a total of \$60 in the account at this point. Waiting until this amount grows was advised.

Town Hall is now listed as an official site for the Tom's of Maine and Gillette campaigns. The posting of all of the items taken in the box is difficult because there is so much detail. The pictures seem to help.

There is also a campaign for snack packages and coffee pods. Christine collects and takes to Subaru.

Future publicity was discussed, both in terms of putting out a flyer in the library and running a feature article on Christine's efforts and the operation she runs out of her house. The latter was postponed until a larger amount of material is collected.

Action:

Christine will develop a flyer for distribution, using 3 recyclable items and a more detailed list in the body of the flyer.

### **October Library Event**

The original date of the 21<sup>st</sup> was discussed and changed to the 28<sup>th</sup>, since the former is the day before t the Town meeting. The topic will be energy efficiency in homes. The company originally interested in doing the program is no longer available, and Christine reached out to Home Works, a large energy auditing company. They are very interested in participating in our program and can schedule MassSave audits at the time.

Action:

David will create a short blurb for putting on the Library calendar and another for a PSA cable spot once the date is confirmed.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM.

Recycling and Sustainability Meeting September 10, 2019

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