

The minutes of the Provincetown Recycling and Renewable Energy Committee meeting April 7, 2016.

Meeting called to order at 10:10 am.

Present: Lydia, Elise, Jen, Eric, Elise, Anna

Water stations need a sign for the drinking fountain downstairs in Town Hall to explain that the machine refills bottles and says how many plastic bottles are saved. Sign could combine new sign for bathroom and make notice of water bottle filling station.

Simple sign: Water-bottle filling station with arrow.

Laura: would like sign to encourage people and explain why we installed this and why they should use it. Let's make a goal of having signs done and up by Memorial Day weekend.

Eric: highway can make sign, in hwy. garage

What are chances of us getting another water fountain near public bathrooms in Town Hall? Talk to Historical Committee for Town Hall, Steve Borkowski. This committee might have been disassembled so we may need to go to the Selectman. May 4th the fountain will be installed at playground.

Anna: the fountains will make a big difference for workers, cab drivers, people passing out flyers, townspeople in general. We've talked to Banner about an article in paper. We should put things in our budget that we need money for.

Eric: if you have a grant, why not make a nice sign rather than have a tacky aluminum sign? Barbara Rushmore knows someone who can make signs locally.

This could create a delay, but we should consider it. We got \$500 to spend on signs. We got funded for explanatory signage and educational posters. Let's think about logos and we can incorporate ideas for signs.

Lydia: Have we signed contract with Cassella?

Eric: no

Laura: Is there any advantage to consolidating with other towns?

Eric: towns aren't consolidating. Other towns probably get better deals because they sort.

Laura: have you thought about a glass crushing machine.

Eric: would not be cost prohibitive.

Anna: It's terribly inconvenient to exchange your bottles for money.

Laura: MA is considering banning the bottle exchange

Eric: Time for individual is not worth it.

Anna: huge amount of nicklebacks in recycling which ups the weight of our recycling. Get someone to sort it out?

Laura: public campaign? It's worth preaching to the choir.

Eric: In Brewster, there's a hut and you bring all your cans and bottles and the Boy Scouts deal with it. You do need someone to come and count and bag. Worth a discussion. Action plan for reducing the weight in recycling and getting more nicklebacks to be exchanged. Jen will talk to Tracy Katchick Anders about doing something with this project.

Laura: collection points for returnables.

Anna: you could even do it at big hotels. People want to recycle and donate. Start to reach out to civic organizations.

Elise: could we provide a clear plastic bags for nicklebacks as a sort of collection point? This is probably not going to be something that tips them to apply. Fire station could have a collection point.

Lydia: been working with Morgan downtown. Fire house on Shank Painter Rd is taking sharps. Police take medicine. Lydia is coming up with signs to put up to educate people what to do with their old drugs and/or needles.

Distribution of recycling info are going out with water bills. We need to print on 100% recycled paper so Lydia moved to have the paper cost (\$60.00) come out of our budget; Jen seconded and all were in favor.

Storm drainage signage. Lydia ordered some samples. Eric is pro-plastic disc on the curb. Lydia: some drains don't have a curb. We want to look at some metal ones because of this. Eric will just have to see how they'll bolt up.

Lydia: can we have a list of how many go into harbor so we know how many to order. Laura: let's just concentrate on Commercial Street.

Eric: I can get a pretty good idea

Anna: let's just do all of them

Eric: concentrate on Johnson to Winthrop. Elise and Lydia will walk and count.

State plastic bag ban:

Laura: been getting emails re new legislation. Have we figured out enforceability?

Anna: we just ok'd a compliance officer

Lydia: the new licensing notice has info about it.

Anna: there is going to be a compliance person from the community development office.

Laura: bill approved for state. Plastic Bag Reduction Act

Lydia: they are ok'ing compostable and biodegradable. We should write letters that they don't compost.

Meeting adjourned 11:10am