

**Recycling & Renewable Energy Committee**  
**March 27, 2015 Minutes**

10:04 meeting called to order. Jen Rumpza, Anna Meade, and Lydia Hamquist present.

Approval of meeting minutes from 1/14/15 and 2/25/15

Motion moved by Lydia, Jen 2nd, all approved.

Solarize Provincetown: Jen invited 100's of people to SP FB page; talked about SP vs. farm/viridian and big business production of solar. Also wind vs. solar.

Information Distribution: Firehouse schedule

Saturday is beach clean-up with Center for Coastal Studies. Lydia would like to participate in that.

Laura Ludwig joined at 10:21

Updated Laura on renewable bags. Sold \$306 worth of bags. Bags are made of recycled materials and made in US and are printed locally.

Laura mentioned Costco's ability to not use any plastic bags. Our law prohibits the distribution and sale of 1.5 mil plastic bags for every store in town and includes compostable and biodegradable bags. We are considering strengthening the law to include all plastic bags.

Working with banthebag.org guy. Lydia bought a digital micrometer to gauge the thickness of the bags around town.

Morgan and Anne are going to be doing inspections and "policing" the use of the bags. When someone gets a business license now, the top sheet has a notice about the bag ban.

Back to Firehouse:

Flyer:

Mary Jo Avellar approved flyer for town meeting and the distribution at the firehouse. Center for Coastal Studies is mentioned on flyer as a way to have us be a collaboration.

Additions to what the transfer station will take: mattresses and box springs, possibly textiles too. People may be putting the mattresses in the bin themselves and will be charged by weight.

How can we collaborate with VSB and Business Guild and Chamber to get the word out. Can they buy our bags and sell them.

Article 12 conversation about wording of cotton bags. Need to change to renewable bags.

Can we work with organizations who create reusable restaurant packaging and have a standard for the town? How do we address the problem of to-go containers? Informational meetings in regards to reusable, recyclable and renewable resources.

Laura applied for federal funding for a partnership with businesses. We could look at grants and funding for programs like this. Laura: we need to do an annual pitch at town meeting.

Temporary exemption: Grandfather people who bought a large amount plastic bags before the ban was in effect and have a receipt to prove it.

Green fence creates a glut for processing of plastic bags and they get burned. Answer is to not use the bags in the first place. If you have them, bind them up and put them in trash.

How can we get the word out what to do with plastic bags that are used in transportation of goods.

Can people request to the supplier not to use plastic?

Consumer power.

RREC would like to create a field trip for the committee to go to the processing plant for our recycling. We have a new company in Fall River.

Laura is interested in finding out more about Stop and Shop and what their plans are.

Lydia proposes that every time a solar panel application goes before HDC, the RREC writes a letter of approval.

Template letter? Can be customized. Short or long letter?

Laura 2nds and we are all in favor.

Lydia talked to Banner about doing blurbs in paper. Sally can re-incorporate the Did You Know boxes.

Anna will compose a letter for HDC recommendation. Dan Towler from Center for Coastal Studies can give us information on the positives about solar panels.

Laura recommends we adjourn. Jen 2nds we all approve at 11:59