

Provincetown Recycling and Renewable Energy Committee
Minutes of meeting 12/16/15
Town Hall Auditorium

Meeting called to order at 10:00am.

Members present: Lydia Hamnquist, Laura Ludwig, Elise Cozzi, Jen Rumpza, Anna Meade (member and CVEC rep). Eric Larsen, staff.

- 1) Minutes – Lydia moved to approve the minutes for both 11/19/15 and 12/2/15. Laura seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed 3-0.
- 2) PRIME Plastic Reduction in the Marine Environment. Laura reported that Center for Coastal Studies is well along in gathering support letters for the grant proposal to the NOAA Marine Debris Outreach and Education program. Lydia provided a letter of support from RREC to include.
- 3) Water Stations: Eric spoke w/ the Elkay rep and decided it was premature to do a site visit until funding was secured. Laura submitted the VSB Tourism Grant application for signage for water stations on 12/7; funding would be announced in early 2016. The PRIME application will request funds for 3 outdoor stations, but funding would not be guaranteed; and would not become available until 9/2016 if it were approved. Jen made a motion to bring the request to the voters at Spring Town Meeting for three stations in town: Macmillan Parking Lot restrooms, Fire Station restrooms and at the Library. Laura seconded the motion. Discussion ensued regarding locations and costs for purchase, installation, marketing, and number of stations. The language for the article would not be about banning single-use plastic water bottles, but to encourage plastic reduction voluntarily, and build on the town's other initiatives about plastic reduction (bag ban, cigarette ban). A vote was taken and the motion passed 5-0.
- 4) Carla Anderson Beautification Party: Eric reported he has not yet ordered the new blue barrels, wanting to wait until the inventory is complete of existing barrels. They will be delivered before April. We need to increase the number of recycling barrels in town, especially on the pier. Jen spoke to PAAM about holding an Earth Day / Trash Barrel party, and they are very enthusiastic about it. They suggested a two-day event, Friday-Saturday (April 22-23), which will allow us to have a demo painting party with the new barrels, and with time enough for primer to dry (weather permitting). Lydia did buy 21 gift cards at Artists Loft, one for each artist who painted barrels last year (funded by VSB award). Jen will email all the artists to let them know the cards are being held at the Artists Loft, and mention the Earth Day party at PAAM.
- 5) New Business:
 - a) Laura brought plates and bowls made by a company called Blueware that are made from plants and are fully compostable in a home compost pile. Each of us will take some samples for show-and-tell. We can show them at Year'rounders, and use the rest at the Earth Day party.
 - b) Year'rounder's fest – we will have a display of what we want to do w/ water bottle filling stations. Elise suggested that the town promote its Green Community status and all the successful initiatives we have undertaken in terms of waste, recycling, solar energy, plastic reduction, etc. We agreed to pull together all the numbers, working w/ DPW and Anna, and present them at Year'rounder's fest.
 - c) Town recycling is going to begin costing \$40/ton with the existing provider (New Bedford), where it was formerly no cost. DPW is investigation new outlets for the town's cardboard and single-stream. Eric reported that the town has increased the recycling rate to over 30% and we are well below our 3000 ton cap on MSW.
 - d) Lydia asked how the town is doing in meeting its Green Community goals. Eric has worked extensively on putting those numbers together and will be able to report on the results before the year is out. On paper we have achievable goals, and we are much farther ahead than many other communities.
- 6) Next Meeting: Wednesday, Jan 6th 10am

Laura moved to adjourn, Anna 2nded. The motion passed 5-0 and meeting was adjourned at 11:25am.