



**Minutes SalemRecycles Committee Meeting held
Tuesday, January 2, 2018
at 6:30 p.m. 3rd Floor at 120 Washington Street, Salem, MA**

Present: Julie Rose, Flora Tonthat (committee chair), Liz Vago, Nancy Gilberg, Geri Yuhas (committee vice chair) Erin Huggard, Carol Hautau, and Melynn Nuite (committee clerk), John Roberts, Lynn Murray, Susan Yochelson

Absent: Beth Melillo, Tony Keck

Meeting was called to order at 6:45p.m. by Flora Tonthat

Approval November 7, 2017 Minutes – with minor changes minutes were approved.

Old Business

1. November 18, 2017 Textiles debrief
Event was held again at, Riley Plaza (across street from Steve's Market and the Post Office). Recycle That was the event vendor. Previous vendor was Good Will Charities. Working with Recycle That a very positive experience. Julie reported there were ~200 participants and 5 tons of materials were collected (that is 5 tons of materials diverted from solid waste). Some committee members at the event this year believed that the event ran too long (8 a.m. – 3 p.m.). Discussion ensued about decreasing the hours for future events, for the following reasons:
 - a. There is increased awareness of textiles recycling
 - b. There are a number of Recycle That bins around Salem including the Phoenix School, St. Anne's, St. Peters, and Crosby Market
 - c. SalemRecycles Swap and Drop event held on the Common each year
 - d. The Salem Public Schools have entered into an agreement with Bay State Textiles-they have white collection containers at the schools

Traffic flow remains an issue/concern. Julie will look again at getting police detail – which the committee has to pay for. Brief discussion about moving the event, but the majority of the committee believed that the event location is well established and to change location would decrease event attendees.

Motion was made, seconded, and approved that the event location for 2018 would remain at Riley Plaza and the hours will be from 8 a.m. – 1 p.m.

2. December 15, 2017 "Bag It" movie at COA debrief
Susan Yochelson reported that the Bag It movie was NOT viewed, but the time was not wasted. Susan did speak about recycling and reusable bags were given to those in attendance. The Bag It movie is showing in early March in Beverly at the Cabot Theater and there was discussion about the COA having a field trip to see this movie.

New Business

1. 2018 Repair Café dates
Discussion about the number of Repair Café events should we have in 2018, two or three. This event is still new and we as a committee are working to grow it. It would be ideal to get this event to run by itself. Given the number of events that are on the SalemRecycles calendar, the motion was made, seconded, and approved to have two Repair Cafes in 2018 –April 7 and November 3, 2018.

Tony Keck is to follow-up with Bridge at 211 for us to continue to use space for these two events in 2018. These dates have since been verified.

Subcommittees- updates-delay until February

Community outreach

1. Plastic bag ban communication
 - a. The Point Neighborhood – Lucy Corchado reports that ~150 folks attend Mass at the Immaculate Conception Church on Hawthorne Blvd. and that re-usable bag education can take place. Both Jason Consalvo from Salem Five and Gina Flynn from Eastern Bank have been very generous with re-usable bag donations. Julie sent them both thank you notes on behalf of the committee.
 - b. Susan Yochelson and Liz Vago will be at the So. Salem Neighborhood Association Meeting on 1-16-2018 to discuss and education about the Reusable Bag Initiative
 - c. There was conversation about working with SATV and Patrick Kennedy to get information posted. Just having a written announcement to scroll would be a start for us to work with SATV.
 - d. The Rotary Bulletin Board located near the Bank of America. Discussion about our getting a bulletin large enough to be an effective reminder
 - e. It was reported that at Market Basket, there were free Kellogg's Company reusable bags. Market Basket also is making boxes an option for packing groceries.

Correspondence

1. E-mail reminders
Please check your email. Remember that committee discussions cannot take place via email but, agenda topics can be vetted.
2. Monthly Facebook
Nancy Gilberg reports 1,710 'Likes' with noted increased activity including sharing. Three events have been created and posted. Nancy works very hard to decrease negative Facebook posts and shaming.
3. Electronic newsletter-topics, creation and increasing distribution
Quarterly Newsletter is being created. As of the end of December 2017, there were 2,017 subscribers to the newsletter.
4. GreenSalem
Is currently up to date, but the subcommittee (Nancy, Erin, Flora, and Melynn) needs to find another date to meet.
5. Periodic Blog

We need and update form Beth Melillo regarding Blog posting.

Strategic Plan update

Other Business

General Committee Announcements

1. At previous SalemRecycles meeting it had been reported that there was a Recycling Coordinator in the Salem Public Schools. This is not correct – Salem Public Schools do NOT have a Recycling Coordinator.
2. Black Earth Compost will collect on compost pick up day your clean, dry textiles and recycle them.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Next Meeting will be February 6, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. at 120 Washington Street.

Respectfully submitted,

Melynn Nuite
SalemRecycles Committee Clerk
Ward 6 resident