



# City of Salem, Massachusetts

**Kimberley Driscoll**  
**Mayor**

**SalemRecycles Meeting**  
**November 6, 2018**

**6:30, 98 Washington Street, Medium Conference Room**

Attending: B. Gillette, M. Guglielmi, S. Hypes, T. Keck, M. Nuite, J. Rose, L. Vago, S. Yochelson

## **October 2018 Minutes**

Approved unanimously as submitted.

## **Old Business**

### November 3 Repair Café

- This was a successful event with roughly the same number of participants as in past. Received \$85.81 in donations. We do not have online registration because Julie Rose must coordinate request with tinkerer. We have an agreement with the Bridge at 211 and will continue to hold there. Liz Vago collected some good tips from various tinkerers.
- Agreed to hold an additional repair café before end of June, probably first Saturday in February. This will generate additional grant money.
- Julie Rose to check date and Tony Keck to clear with the Bridge.
- Suggestions for future:
  - Need 2-3 people at registration table to take people to right repair person
  - Make sure to tell them to check out...small sign would be good
  - Do run through the night before. Set-up was complicated due to the fact that tables were scattered throughout the building.
  - We need special repair supplies for some kinds of lamps. Tony Keck to check this out

### Textiles education plan

- Micaela Guglielmi will do a post a day the week before the Textiles drive on Instagram.
- Lynn Murray and Micaela Guglielmi to develop education plan further.

## **New Business**

- Micaela Guglielmi set up a new Instagram account and put an icon on the website.
- November 17 Textiles Drive, 8 AM to 1 pm, is ready to go. There will be two fewer hours this time. Reminder: No pillows, no stuffed animals
- DEP's Recycling Dividends Program (RDP) has funded Micaela's position, but there will be new requirements for 2019 and we can expect lower funding as they raise the bar. A third repair café could generate another \$2500; opening up hazardous waste days to surrounding communities could generate another \$2000.

## **Subcommittees- updates**

- *Butt Bin Recycling-adoption program/sticker replacement.* Susan Yochelson has adopted the bin at Harbor and Lafayette Streets. Her husband wants the one outside Christina's.

- *Mandatory Recycling/Hauler Ordinance* is scheduled to be implemented by January 1, 2019. We are not sure where this stands. They are interviewing candidates for Board of Health director; when someone is on board it may generate a little movement. Need to check with Geri Yuhas.
- *Straw Reduction*: Julie Rose, Barbara Warren, Lucy Petrovic and Lisa Peterson are involved with input from the Disability Commission. Betsy Ricciarelli and Julie Rose will meet regarding the roughly 300 food establishments and will pick 25 or 30 to talk to. Barbara had outline of how teens approached in another location. December 5<sup>th</sup> meeting is scheduled to clarify bullet points before approaching venues. Agreed that a positive “Kudo’s to So-and-So” program could be effective. Emphasized that we should all tell restaurant servers that we don’t want a straw.
- *Litter reduction*: Micaela is talking with Laura Assade about some kind of event to be held in the Point with snacks, a small presentation, maybe game or two. They are short-staffed right now so this won’t happen right away. There really is more trash there than in other neighborhoods, especially Peabody and Congress Streets; need to figure out how to change behaviors, but we don’t want to start with a negative. Laura suggested a neighborhood walk-through and/or possibly having ambassadors for each street to be champions. Does CDC have any Americorps volunteers? This would be a good project for them
- *GreenSalem.com and Salem.com*: The current GreenSalem site is pretty much up to date. We are contracting with BKJ Productions to develop the new site, which is progressing well. Need to refresh content on Salem.com; it’s too dense, too hard to find. We will do this when greensalem.com is done.

### **Community outreach (Waste Reduction Coordinator Update)**

- First day of current audit showed high level of contamination (32%) but this could be due to the neighborhood collected. The audit is a two-week program. Hoping other days bring that percentage down. (It should be under 10 percent. The first time we were at 8 percent and, just before Micaela came on board, 28 percent.)
- Results can be skewed for many reasons: plastic bags, a lot of heavy stuff like pillows, quilts, lamps, vs. paper can really affect the contamination factor of the 200-pound sample. Single stream has also complicated the situation more packaging NS people need to make money by recycling. But it’s good in a labor shortage and carbon footprint is much smaller because fewer trucks and man hours are required. The biggest bang for the buck comes from paper, aluminum, tin.
- We have no good place to recycle for metal. Complicates our messaging.
- Reminders: the following are not recyclable: wrapping paper, ribbon, shredded paper. The following are not recyclable but can be composted: tissue paper, toilet paper, napkins.

### **Correspondence**

- We now have more than 2000 Facebook followers.
- No more blogs on agenda

### **Strategic Plan**

- Schools have switched from plastic to paper straws.
- Micaela is working with schools, but it’s slow progress.
- Styrofoam in the ocean is the big problem, not the straws according to a presentation at a MassRecycles event.

### **Other Business**

- *Food in trash*. Our trash is incinerated in Saugus. Food doesn’t burn well. Not sure on messaging. Julie will ask Waste Management
- *Pumpkin drop*: This was a success with public, but Black Earth only got 20 names. We later learned that more names were collected.
- *Issue at Greenlawn*: Planters, statues, etc. have been collected in a garage. Decided this info would be passed to Friends of Greenlawn to handle.
- Trash on the commuter boat: Melynn reported that they are tossing everything into one container at the end of the day, including contents of the recycling bin. Julie suggested reaching out to Kathy Lynn and Bill McHugh, the harbor master. Tony to handle.