**SalemRecycles Minutes**

**January 7, 2020**

**6:30 pm, 98 Washington St, 1st Floor Medium Conference Room**

**Attendees:** Tony Keck, Nancy Gilberg, Kristin Woodruff, Beth Gillett, Melynn Nuite, Geri Yuhas, Carol Hautau, Liz Vago, Erin Huggard, Susan Yochelson, Eric Duffy

**Absent:** Micaela Gugliemi, John Roberts

Meeting called to order at 6:32p. November 5, 2019 minutes were unanimously approved.

**New Business**

**February 1, 2020 Repair Cafe** - Micaela sent email to volunteers. Committee members planning to volunteer: Tony (has keys), Nancy, Kristin, Beth, Melynn, Geri, Carol, Liz (can be additional knife sharpener). Per Geri, Essex vacuum on North Street is willing to attend.

**Action item**: Nancy to call to confirm Essex Vacuum’s availability

**Action item**: committee members to respond to Micaela's email regarding volunteering

Per Nancy, the Facebook response for the event is 150 likes, 50 shares.

**Action item**: Nancy to post FB reminder that event is Salem residents only, to pre-register, and there is a limit of 2 items.

It was mentioned that the current flyer does not include Salem residents only and 1 or2 items only, consider adding to next version. Next Repair Cafe is March 28, 2020. (Salem Film Festival will also be running and SFF will be having some events at The Bridge @ 211 building as well).

**Styrofoam Collection Task Force Creation**

Micaela contacted Beverly for results of their collection event. Beverly reported 82 cars, participation fee of $600, Rotary Club sponsored. Hamilton and Beverly are considering combining an event. Would Salem want to consider joining in with Hamilton and Beverly? If a combined event of three towns, each would be responsible to pay $200. Hamilton’s event is this weekend and is residents only. Beth suggested discussion to be tabled until after Hamilton’s event and requested Micaela contact. It was agreed to table further discussion until Micaela can contact Hamilton.

**Old Business**

**November 23, 2019 Textile Drive**

Melynn reported: volunteers arrived before truck (driver got lost) and one volunteer didn’t show and one left early. 6,185 lbs of textiles were collected from 235 cars/walk ups. Morning shift had 7 volunteers, afternoon had 9 - multiple committee members stated this was an appropriate number of volunteers. Susan stated wish: very clear promotion about what vendors take. Liz stated she viewed event as successful, multiple mentions from participants that they save up for year. 2020 event: November 21, 2020 from 8a-1p, 2 shifts.

**December 28, 2019 E-Waste**

Eric reported: went well per vendor, don't have numbers yet, vendor not on time. Nancy reported, per Micaela, that white goods (washer, dryer, water heater, trash compactor, stove) are too bulky and no longer collected, (changes approved by vendor) large exercise equipment will now be $20 each, suggested encouragement to use monthly free Waste Management’s pick up. Melynn suggested committee members available to walk members through steps for WM sign up for pick up. Liz suggested this is a Waste Management responsibility. Kristin suggested we create a flyer to have residents take a picture of WM sign-up steps so resident can call on their own. Ultimately the committee wants to encourage residents to contact WM to arrange white goods pick-up.

Susan suggested there be edits/updates made to the 2021 recycling calendar.

**Action item**: potential social media post: changes to e-waste, what is a white good.

**Action item**: Kristin to call Waste Management to create protocol for white goods and/or bulk item pick up.

**Task Force Updates**

**Mandatory Recycling/ Hauler Ordinance**

Geri reported meeting of all haulers (8), plus Micaela, - letters sent out, and collected licensing fees (unsure who). Susan stated she will add to newsletter. Nancy inquired if there a mechanism for residents to report violations. Susan suggested contact Eric/ Micaela. Melynn suggested the task force was for education only and is now complete.

**School Recycling Grant**

Eric reported he contacted Ryan Monks and Ryan stated he has a list of items to be purchased. Eric to meet with Ryan next week, Ryan stated he has reached out to schools for potential coordinator (approximately 2 hours per week). There remains $12K left to be spent by end of school year in fulfillment of the grant. $4K of the $12K is for the coordinator role. Beth asked if that can be used on supplies or if the coordinator can work additional hours so that the $ can be spent before the end of school year. Beth inquired whether city has a say in how the money is spent. Yes, MADEP does as well. Beth suggested the committee/city weigh in items. Susan suggested compostable plates/trays as a pilot.

**Action item:** Eric will inquire what purchasing possibilities are.

**Composting/ Food Truck Festival 2020**

Eric stated Ellen Talkowsky will help us send a letter that we draft to Food Truck Festivals of America asking vendor to use more compostable items. Beth suggested Food Truck Festival of America pay Black Earth to compost on site. Susan whether Food Truck Festivals of America vs. vendors pay city for trash pick-up.

**Action item:** Eric to look into trash cost and who paid by.

Food Truck Festival will be September 26 & 27, 2020 11a-6p.

**Mattress Recycling**

Eric reported UTEC info as follows: $30 drop off, a minimum of 40 participants, $20 per resident. Plus: $600 cost to city. Alternatively, renting a truck is $90 per month. Tony asked if committee can put information for individuals to recycle (deliver to Utech) on their own as UTEC does not do individual pickups.

**Action item:** Carol inquire if Salem State University uses UTEC and if they so make an inquiry to see if the city could partner with Salem State University.

**Curbside Textile Recycling with Simple Recycle**

Melynn reported the task force is scheduled to meet February 1, 2020, post Repair Café event. Eric reported Simple Recycle / Waste Zero is now in multiple MA cities. Eric reported: no complaints from cities, free for city, Simple Recycle pays $20 per ton, put out with trash (pink bags), follow trash routes. The city is still looking at contract details. Nancy inquired if this conflicts with Helpsy / Bay State Textiles boxes at schools. Erin inquired about the end result - is it recycled and/or sold.

**Action item:** Eric to follow-up with committee members’ questions.

**Community Outreach**

Waste Reduction Coordinator Update/ Eric WM update

Eric reported an upcoming meeting with Waste Management. WM claimed understaffed/new drivers as reason for yard waste pick up delays. Yard waste and Christmas tree pick up takes longer than usual routes and is more labor intensive. Eric reported that per contract, WM has 2 weeks to pick up yard waste, despite communication to residents as 1 week. Discussion related to communication between WM and residents - ideally: more consistent with realistic timeline if not picked up "on time".

**Action item:** Eric to provide date of next audit

**Action item**: Eric to provide info regarding recycle contamination.

**Correspondence**

**Social Media Update**: Nancy reported 2454 likes, 2641 follows. Nancy reported new post regarding Grief (53 Jefferson Ave., Salem)–paper and confidential shredding drop off is at side door, cardboard drop off is on other side. For dropping off cardboard is now a two-step process: weigh car then drop, then weigh car again. Cardboard and paper drop off have different hours, can drop off already shredded, to be shredded, recycled only. Nancy reported shredded paper post had 1500 reaches.

Liz stated wish to communicate differences between home (backyard) composting vs. Black Earth Compost as some things are compostable for Black Earth that are not readily compostable via backyard home composting.

**Electronic newsletter / blog:** Susan reported content for next newsletter:

- Grief (53 Jefferson Ave., Salem)

- what to do with too much recycling - ask SalemRecycles

- condo ordinance

- repair cafe

- e-waste/white goods

- valentine’s day waste vs recycling

**Other Business**

-1. Geri inquired what to do with overflow recycling, with some discussion around ability to get extra recycling totter – cost would be ~ $50.

2. Salem Film Festival - 10 day event this year. SalemRecycles has sponsored a film in past. Committee agreed to sponsor a film again in 2020

**Action item**: Melynn to research PO process, communicate with Eric.

-3. Filming/Live Streaming public meeting protocol - Per Tony, SalemRecycles Committee meetings can be live streamed, but the person filming, live streaming must announce prior to beginning live streaming.

-4. Liz suggested adding reduce/reuse updates/initiatives in to recycle initiatives.

-5. Liz suggested the committee consider a meet and greet / recruitment. Tony suggested we do so at current events.

6. Nancy inquired about downtown flyer distribution list and whether it needs to be updated. Melynn suggested committee members volunteer to distribute/post flyers. Geri reported was previously done by committee members, then summer interns.

**Action item** - Nancy to email Micaela for updated flyer/posting distribution list.

-7. Susan reported film festival in Kittery, ME this weekend.

Meeting closed - 8:02p