



**Kimberley Driscoll**  
**Mayor**

# City of Salem, Massachusetts

SalemRecycles Minutes  
June 7, 2022 6:30pm

Present: Micaela Guglielmi, Kristin Woodruff, Geri Yuhas, Nancy Gilberg, Shannon Chretien, Cameron Fullerton, Bonnie Bain, Jen Birenbach, Bruce Cohen

Absent: Carol Hautau

May 2022 minutes were voted on by roll call vote.

## Old Business

- Book Swap - Micaela noted the swap went well overall. Feedback from the event: more tables needed (would need to be brought in from the outside). Geri inquired how many books were taken - Micaela noted Discover Books took all leftover books, including some damaged books that we thought would have to be trashed. Additional suggestions: donating classical literature books to schools. The side door was open for the volunteers, but participants entered – we want them to use the main entrance. Jen inquired whether schools are aware of the swap. Micaela noted increased communication with schools may be possible and a potential partnership. Final suggestions: add “coffee table” books as a category, have people separate books by category before donating in labeled boxes. Jen inquired whether there were any concerns about returning to an in-person event, Micaela stated she did not hear any negative feedback, but there was a big crowd when we first opened. Micaela, Jen, and Geri noted the drop off on Friday was very busy and we had more books donated than ever before. Micaela noted there were not as many drop offs on Saturday. Kristin inquired whether it would be helpful to increase the drop off hours on Friday. Micaela stated she would consider increasing the drop off time from 3-7p, but it may need to be 2 shifts. Nancy inquired if there was any feedback from Discover Books. Micaela did not receive any specific feedback, she said it was overall easy to work with them. Geri inquired what happens to the books taken away; they are resold, recycled, and shredded to be used as new paper. Micaela suggested waiting to plan the next book swap until the August meeting and/or until Micaela’s replacement starts.

## New Business

- Styrofoam Day - Saturday June 11, 9-12 - Micaela stated she has heard from 4 volunteers, plus the volunteers from Beverly. The CLC will not be open/available for the restroom, but Dunkin’s is down the road. Geri noted it was busy in the winter event as many people had saved styrofoam. Micaela posted on social media, plus a press release. Early drop off in Beverly is available at their library. Nancy requested event statistics prior to Micaela’s last day.
- Membership Recruitment - Geri and Nancy noted a previous “meet and greet” was an effective way to recruit new members – we should do this when Micaela’s replacement starts so she can meet everyone. Kristin suggested recruiting at the farmers market dates; Micaela noted those dates are later in the summer – September 22<sup>nd</sup> is secured. Kristin suggested putting together a one-page flyer, sign, or hand out with a description of the role of the committee members.
- Styrofoam / Compostable Ordinance - Deferred discussing at tonight’s meeting.

- Committee Positions (Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary) - Jen has volunteered to be committee secretary. Cameron stated he would volunteer for the chair position, with some guidance by additional committee members.
- Public Recycling Bins - Micaela noted this is the responsibility of the DPW (Ray Jodoin). Nancy suggested doing an audit of the recycling bins. Bruce asked for clarification, Micaela stated that there is generally high contamination in recycling bins with tourists disposing of trash in recycling bins. Nancy noted there is also high dog waste contamination in areas where dog walking is popular. Micaela will take photos of downtown bins and share with Nancy.
- Cigarette Butt Recycling - Now done by Salem Sound Coast Watch (Margaret Tran) - Nancy inquired whether the cigarette butts are only getting collected or if they are also getting recycled. Nancy stated she will contact Margaret Tran.

### **Task Force Updates**

- Green Salem A-Z Guide - Micaela offered to provide Nancy access to edit the website until her replacement is hired. Bruce also volunteered to learn to edit the website. Micaela can also access it from home and make minor edits if needed.

### **Community Outreach**

- Waste Reduction Coordinator Update - Micaela has a training document in draft for her replacement, as well as a job description to post. She also wants to come back and train the new hire. The role is very hands-on with bin checking, communicating with Waste Management, volunteers, event planning, reporting to MA DEP and working with DPW. The City of Salem Business Manager is currently open. Micaela currently reports to Dave Knowlton, Director of the DPW. The position will report to the Business Manager, once hired.
- Textile / Mattress Recycling Educational Campaign - Micaela is working with Green Mattress to continue to pick up mattress's curbside. It is unclear if it will continue to be free or there will be a fee, as the city will have to pay for the service. Bruce noted frustration with submitting a letter discussing textiles to the Salem news as it has a strict character limit. Nancy offered to work with Bruce to find a solution. It was suggested that we use this piece for the SalemRecycles newsletter.

### **Correspondence**

- Social media - Most popular posts were related to rain barrels and photos of the book swap. Nancy inquired whether she can promote the fall textile drive on social media. Micaela stated she will contact Helpsy for availability.
- Electronic newsletter – as discussed, we will use Bruce's textile letter

### **Other Business**

- General Committee Announcements
  - Micaela has accepted a new position with MA DEP to help communities in MA with their recycling programs and will be leaving her role with the city of Salem as of June 17th.
  - Kristin will be stepping down as secretary and from the committee after June.
  - Shannon will be moving out of Salem and stepping down from the committee after June.
  - The committee does not generally meet during July. A potluck/pizza/volunteer party may be organized.
  - Until a replacement is hired, Dave Knowlton and/or the new Business Manager will run the committee meetings starting in August. There is a possibility the August meeting will be held in person.