



Minutes SalemRecycles Committee Meeting held Tuesday, August 1, 2017
at 6:30 p.m. 3rd Floor at 120 Washington Street, Salem, MA

Present: Erin Huggard, Julie Rose, Nancy Gilberg, Flora Tonthat (committee chair), Beth Melillo, Geri Yuhas, Carol Hautau, Lynn Murray, and Melynn Nuite (committee clerk)

Absent: Tony Keck, Liz Vago, Penny Neal, Susan Yochelson, John Roberts,

Meeting was called to order at 6:350p.m. by Flora Tonthat

Expectations of and member conduct during meeting was reviewed.

New Business:

1. Minutes from June 6, 2016 had been previously distributed for review, edits made. Minutes were reviewed and approved as written. Of note there was no SalemRecycles Committee meeting held in July 2017
2. Our next FREE Book Drop & Swap is scheduled for September 16, 2017 at the Council on Aging located at 5 Broad Street

Old Business:

1. The movie "Bag It" will be shown at Cinema Salem on Sunday, September 24, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. Discussion about ways to promote this movie:
 - a. Facebook – Nancy Gilberg will to do this
 - b. AJo, our volunteer graphics person will be asked to make a flier to distribution around town – Julie Rose will follow-up on this.
 - c. Ask Neighborhood Improvement Advisory Council (NIAC) to help promote our event
2. Debrief of Volunteer Appreciation event held Wednesday, June 14, 2017 at Winter Island event hall. The event was very nice. Julie did get a good RSVP response which helped her planning; also those who could not attend were very grateful to be invited. Attendees liked the name tag "answers" as it promoted fun conversation throughout the evening. Our new beanbag sorting game was played and fun was had by all. The food was tasty as summer vacations have not begun, so we will anticipate mid-June 2018 for our next Volunteer Appreciation Event. Committee members save any potential gifts that we could use as a raffle.
3. Dept. of Environmental Protection (DEP) Grants were re-applied for June 14, 2017. One provides continued funding for the MERC (David Holland). The second is a request for funds to beef up school recycling. Julie Rose reported that it is looking positive that we will get this grant as we will be targeting Salem schools.

Sub-Committee Updates:

General:

1. Repair Café –

We are in good shape for our 1st event to be held this Saturday, August 4, 2017 at The Bridge at 211 from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon. Julie Rose reminded us that we will have to do the entire set-up and breakdown for this event. All SalemRecycles committee members are to arrive at 7:30 a.m. and tinkerers/repairers to arrive at 8:00 a.m. for set up. As parking space is VERY limited, committee members will have to move their cars after unloading. We will have traffic director during the event.

Julie has obtained a permit from the Board of Health to cover our snacks as snacks will be available to the attendees – the café part of our event.

2. Butt Bin recycling program –

It has been proposed by David Knowlton to have a butt bin ‘adoption’ program. This would broaden our present caption area from our current downtown catchment area. What needs to be considered regarding an adoption?

- a. Butt bin emptying expectations – contained butts smell bad / stink
- b. Butts need to be DRY prior to returning.
- c. Storage of butts until return container is full.
- d. Kudos / Bragging rights possible options that would also promote the adoption program
 - i. SalemRecycles website
 - ii. Newsletters
 - iii. Facebook
 - iv. Cinema Salem screen ad
- e. Consider pairing a SalemRecycles committee member with the adopter to increase our committee presence in the community.

There would have to be a memorandum of understanding (MOU) for adoption, which would apply to an individual or group that would adopt a butt bin. The committee agrees that butt bin adoption is very good idea, but realize the level of commitment to adoption. Julie Rose has agreed to work on a draft MOU. We will further discuss adoption program at our next meeting.

3. Public Recycling –

William (Bill) Legault is going to be doing another Fireballs Event this year - check out Facebook pages Salem Fireball Hulk Smash 2017 and Fireballs of Salem. By history Bill started this as a fun way for citizens to clean up the nip bottles that litter our city.

For this event Bill has requested two blue recycle totes. One will be placed at Notch Brewery and the other at Quality Liquors on Margin Street. Participants are encouraged to collect any non-returnable (deposit for \$), take a picture of the collection and post it on Facebook. Those the post will be entered into a prize drawing. (Post meeting: Melynn Nuite confirmed that this event will run until Monday, Aug 14, 2017) as Bill had to await permission from the Notch Brewery landlord to allow the recycle bin to be placed at the Notch.)

4. Trash Reduction –

- a. Dave Holland, Susan Yochelson, and Julie Rose are working on language for this effort, and Lynn Murray will edit these materials that will be sent in trash bill reminders, etc.
- b. Bulk Trash items – if you see trash items that are not being collected please notify
 - i. Waste Management (WM): phone 800-972-4545 and book the pick-up
 - ii. Dave and Julie Rose via email to let them know the address of the trash so they can follow-up or call WM.

Lynn spoke to the fact that landlords ought to include in their rental agreements / leases expectations of trash and recycling. Discussion followed that many landlords are absent and/or exemplify an “I don’t care” attitude around mandatory recycling.

As the City of Salem has ~50% tenant population, trash reduction will continue to be an issue and effort for the City and this committee.

5. Mandatory Recycling/Hauler Ordinance –
The grant will be rolled-over this fall. Currently we think it will be done by a BOH regulation.
6. Reusable Bag Initiative –
Goes into effect January 1, 2018
Carol Hautau visited each vender at the July 6, 2017 Salem Farmers' Market and informed them about this initiative. 600 letters/information packets have been mailed to Salem businesses. Julie Rose reported that ~30 letters were returned undeliverable. Julie has also provided twelve of these letter/packets to Salem Licensing Board so they can include this information to new businesses.
7. GreenSalem.com –
All committee members reminded to please take time to periodically view this site. If there are changes that need to be made or suggestions to improve this site please write to Flora, Beth and Julie and let them know.
Julie Rose reported that the A-Z is being reviewed by the summer intern, Jackie Panneton. She is checking all links. Lynn Murry is getting new photographs taken to update our pictures on the visitors' page and butt bin page.
FYI – Extras for Creative Use in Peabody has closed.

Community Outreach

Nancy Gilberg would like us to explore getting water bottle filling stations placed. The exact areas to be determined but in city hall and Salem public schools for sure. Ipswich schools have water bottle filling stations and it is believed that there is a water filling station at the National Parks Visitor Center in Salem. She will make initial contact with Tom Devine, senior city planner in planning.

Correspondence

1. E-mail reminders – Overall committee is good with the subject line INFORM, ACTION, and the number of emails that are sent.
2. Monthly Facebook – Nancy Gilberg is doing a great job with our Facebook page!
 - a. We have 1,608 page Likes
 - b. For the Bag It movie, there are 32 goings and 145 interested
 - c. Messaging increasing about textiles – don't throw them out
 - d. Need for bulk items handling refresher
3. Short videos
 - a. Patrick at SATV will help us out
 - b. Get footage at next week's Pizza Night (Monday, Aug 7, 2017). Black Earth Compost is donating composting and truck for this event
 - c. The Salem YMCA's Ice Cream Night (Tuesday, Aug 8, 2017). SalemRecycles is a sponsor of this event as the cost of going all compostable significantly increased
4. Electronic Newsletter –
 - a. The last newsletter was well received.
 - b. We have 1,994 subscribers to the e-newsletter
5. Periodic Blog
 - a. Nancy Gilberg, Beth Melillo, and Flora Tonthat are working out the issues regarding the snip-it changes that are not showing up.

Mandatory Recycling Update

Dave Holland is now full-time employed: ½ FTE with Recycling and ½ FTE with Dept. of Public Works (DPW). Dave is working on getting the SeeClickFix.com reported listings addressed / resolved. We are glad that Dave is now full-time.

General Announcements

1. Public dog waste (poo) receptacles –
 - a. there are 3,000 licensed dogs in Salem
 - b. Salem Sound Coastwatch may have input regarding the effect of dog waste on our environment – Susan Yochelson
 - c. Movie night on the Common begins Wednesday, Aug 9, 2017 – via Lynn Murry
 - d. Curbside textiles - Erin Huggard shared some printed materials she came across that included the link to <http://simplerecycling.com/> (this is a curbside textiles recycling initiative-there are concerns about how this would work in Salem). This committee will be discussing textiles further

Next meeting scheduled for September 5, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Melynn Nuite
SalemRecycles Committee Clerk
Ward 6 resident