



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

Present: Julie Rose, Flora Tonthat, Nancy Gilberg, Geri Yuhas, Carol Hautau, Tony Keck, and Melynn Nuite (committee clerk)

Absent: Beth Melillo, Lynn Murray, Susan Yochelson, John Roberts, Erin Huggard, Liz Vago

Meeting was called to order at 6:30p.m. by Flora Tonthat

Approval September 5, 2017 Minutes – were approved as written

Old Business

1. Debrief-Bag It Movie-September 24, 2017
There were approximately 40 attendees at this Sunday morning event. The 45 minute version was good. SalemSound Coastwatch did a great job leading the post discussion. The audience was very engaged. The chatter on Facebook was good and Nancy Gilberg posted some related links after the event.
2. Debrief-Book Swap September 16
The event went well, even though the last hour was a slow. There were ~600 attendees. The number of books seemed less, but there were plenty of books. The message got out as there were fewer mildew / dusty books brought to the event. Keeping text books in boxes was helpful. Agreed that moving the volunteer snack area to the smaller room was very helpful. The bag swap area was also very well received!
3. Haunted Happening Parade participation – October 5, 2017
Flora showed a picture of her costume for Thursday's parade. Julie will provide the SalemRecycles banner which has Velcro straps for securing. Participants to make some signs as well to heighten the Reusable Bag Initiative message. Julie will email our volunteers to see if we can get more participants. Participants are to meet at Shetland Park at 6:00 p.m. Flora will be the contact person on Thursday.

New Business

1. November 4, 2017 Repair Café Resources
Julie Rose explained to the committee that there is not a separate SalemRecycles budget. There are line items for certain events. Donations are treated as revolving funds and used as necessary for our events/functions. There are grants for repair café events applied through waste reduction grants. Julie noted that our Repair Café could in the future apply for grants (minimum grants of \$10K up to \$100K) if our event grows.

Subcommittees- updates

1. Repair Café-November 4 -schedule, volunteers, set-up and break down
For Nov 4, 2017 we presently have six tinkers committed. We do not have a sharpening or a jewelry repair volunteers. If you know tinkers, please vet through Julie. Julie will ask that folks come at 7:30 a.m. as we (volunteers) will need to do complete set-up and breakdown.
2. Butt Bin Recycling-adoption program-15 bins to adopt
There are 6 bins that have been adopted. Julie is presently OK with the process. No committee mentors needed presently.
3. Public Recycling
 - a. Public School Grant for \$30K, to increase recycling in our schools. Eva helped with this grant. We should know in November if we will receive these funds, then the committee can get involved with implementation.
 - b. Tops for public recycle bins have been ordered.
4. Trash Reduction
Goal is to get a press release out in November. Susan, Lynn and Julie will work on this.
5. Mandatory Recycling/Hauler Ordinance – discussion tabled.
6. Reusable Bag Initiative
 - a. The Council on Aging has rescheduled our reusable bag initiative educational session for November 8, 2017 at 9 a.m. As Julie will be attending an out of town meeting, she will check with Susan Y to see if she can lead the event.
 - b. NIAC did not believe that a specific Reusable Bag Initiative educational session would be very effective for those in that community.
7. GreenSalem.com-info needed for suggested changes
Please continue to notify Beth and Flora with changes to this site. Be clear in your communication to them, sending a screen shot if possible to the corrections needed / requested.

Community outreach

1. The Point Block Party held on 9/30/2017 from 3-7p.m.
Flora reported that this event was very good. The Recycle Bean Bag games was a big hit. The face-to-face interaction was good. The making of upcycle t-shirt bags was received a less favorably. Many free reusable bags were given out. It was asked the the Seahorse Recycle Bag poster be done in Spanish. Julie will see that this is done.

Other discussion was had about how to get out the work about our Reusable Bag Initiative message. Ideas floated were, Church announcements at Spanish language services/mass, Sunday morning radio show (92.3 or 91.7?)

Correspondence

1. E-mail reminders
Tony reminded us of the MA law that is to be adhered to for our committee work. Topics can be brought up for agenda items but, that the discussion and decisions need to happen during our monthly meetings.
2. Monthly Facebook
Nancy reported that we have 1,667 Likes. She has posted information about the dumpster at the Transfer Station in October on two weekends Sat 7 a.m. – 3 p.m. and Sun 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
3. Short Videos-footage and text-meeting with SATV – tabled discussion.

4. Electronic newsletter-topics, creation and increasing distribution
Our e-newsletter has 1, 999 subscribers. Topics to write about included
 - a. Moving out – what you need to know
 - b. Being a Volunteer.
5. GreenSalem
6. Periodic Blog
For this next blog it was discussed that “Being a Volunteer” would be better suited for the blog rather than the e-newsletter.

Mandatory Recycling update

Other Business

General Committee Announcements

1. Julie announced the Dave Holland is no longer employed by the City. His position will be posted next week.
2. Strategic Plan Update
SalemRecycles strategic plan update is due May 2018. This plan is reviewed every two years. It was decided to table further discussion until January 2018.
3. Judy Kearney may attend our November meeting, she may potentially want to join the committee. She has volunteered at many of our events.
4. Quarterly meeting with Waste Management
 - a. Changes to bulk pick-up include carpet cut in 4 foot length and rolled up and tied. Roll cannot be larger than 3 feet in diameter.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Next Meeting will be November 7, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Melynn Nuite
SalemRecycles Committee Clerk
Ward 6 resident