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| **Kimberley Driscoll**  **Mayor** | City of Salem, Massachusetts |

SalemRecycles Minutes

January 5th, 2021 6:30pm

Attending: Liz Vago, Micaela , Melynn Nuite, Kristin Woodruff, Beth Gillett, Bonnie Bain, Carol Hatau, Erin Huggard, Tony Keck, Geri Yuhas, Susan Yochelson, Nancy Gilberg

Visitors:

Absent:

November 2020 Minutes approved by vote.

**Old Business**

* November Textile Event Debrief
  + Terracycle - Bonnie asked for feedback from the collection pilot.  Melynn stated believes to be beneficial, would be willing to continue, and thinks may be process of educating community.  Nancy stated a challenge as lack of central collection/drop off point. Beth suggested Bonnie hold onto events collected at textile drive and next steps TBD. Carol suggested considering the Community Center (vs City Hall) as a drop off location (rt parking).
  + Micaela reports 321 participants (more than years past).  Beth noted positive energy from community.  Beth offered feedback - ask volunteers ahead of time what they are able to do (ie, lifting, carrying) to be able to plan accordingly.  Erin noted benefit of good/warm weather.

**New Business**

* February Repair Café – cancel, virtual, share videos?
  + In person event cancelled.
  + Liz inquired of willingness of Melynn (as a representative of other seamstresses) to do Zoom/video tutorials for sewing.  Melynn stated she would be willing to answer specific questions but thinks it may be difficult to do a virtual event.  Nancy suggested Repair Cafe weekend to match needs with repairs to do separately.  Beth suggested people may not be willing to provide home addresses.  Kristin suggested created private Facebook group in lieu of a specific event.   Challenges presented: committee member involvement, tinkerer time commitment, logistics of what might be needed for fixes.  Beth suggested option of outdoor (in person) event in good weather. Locations suggested: Winter Island pavilion and/or function hall, 211 Bridge courtyard. Susan inquired of City guidelines for such events.

* March Book Swap – Free Book Day instead?
  + In person event cancelled
  + Geri requested including the Point in future Free Book Days.  Geri shared request from food pantry to have books donated. Potential date: April.  Melynn shared update from idea to do book only buy nothing FB page - Melynn and Alexa Ongo offered to moderate. Liz suggested this may be an option in addition to book swap day (not instead of).  Beth and others suggested she would not be interested in supporting this, it could be hard to manage another page when there are so many similar options like freecycle. Melynn stated will talk with Alexa, inform that SalemRecycles does not want to manage/support group.  Geri suggested creating smaller area of tables.  Nancy suggested encouraging neighbors to participate to have multiple stops in close proximity, without being in one location (to limit gathering).
* 2021 Events Discussion
  + Beth suggested spring textile event.  Liz suggested there is a textile collection as part of the May Swap and Drop.  Melynn wondered if we would lose volume of recycling if add a second event.  Beth suggested with promotion, this may be a way to keep the events/SalemRecycles visible in the community.  Tony suggested twice a year would support spring/fall cleaning.  Tony voiced concern of number of people able to be together at one time - swap and drop is too difficult to manage vs. textile is drop off only. Kristin suggested other resources available as alternative for swap and drop.
    - Action item: Micaela to contact parking department to determine Riley plaza availability - tentatively first weekend of May.
    - Action item: Continue discussion of outdoor Repair Cafe at 211 Bridge Street at Feb meeting. Tony to contact 211 Bridge Street.
* E-waste dates: March 27 is the next one

**Task Force- Updates**

* SR Mission Statement - NA

**Community Outreach**

* Waste Reduction Coordinator Update
  + Mack Park composting to remain open through winter.
  + Point 2nd trash pick up pilot not likely to continue.
  + Beth shared city of Hamilton has moved to mandatory composting.  Erin shared campaign to promote composting.  Discussion related to promoting composting within the city.  Melynn inquired about recycling and composting into in the ‘new resident guide’.  Micaela stated flyer with info is included. Nancy suggested revisiting idea of 2nd drop off location.

**Correspondence**

* Social Media Update
  + Focus rt holiday, “is my take out recyclable?”, Christmas tree repurpose, electronic recycling - lots of shares and likes.
  + 2610 likes, 2800 followers.
* Electronic newsletter-topics, creation and increasing distribution
  + Bonnie requested co-editor for newsletter to support ideas, deadlines, editing.  Carol and Liz both volunteered to discuss offline with Bonnie.

**Other Business**

General Committee Announcements