

# **SalemRecycles Committee**

## **Meeting Minutes, January 3, 2023**

### **Attending**

Janelle Rolke (City Liaison), Carol Hautau Vice Chair, Jen Birenbach Secretary, Bonnie Bain, Bruce Cohen, Joel Dashnaw, Demi Fox, Cameron Fullerton, Nancy Gilberg, Geri Yuhas  
No absentees, No Guests

### **Old Business**

#### **November 2022 Minutes**

Motion to approve: Geri Yuhas; Second: Bruce Cohen; Approved.

#### **Recite Recycling Committee Mission**

The mission of SalemRecycles, a committee appointed by the Mayor, is to reduce trash tonnage in the City of Salem by increasing recycling, diverting reusable items, and motivating city stakeholders through education and information.

#### **2023 Brochures**

These are in and Janelle has them, please get some and distribute to your neighbors and friends.

#### **2023 Waste Management Calendars**

(double-sided in English and Spanish). These will be mailed in the Water/Sewer bills. There are 3 holiday delays not captured in those print outs. The week of January 16<sup>th</sup>, week of February 20<sup>th</sup>, and week of April 17<sup>th</sup>). These discrepancies have since been edited and all documents on the website reflect the accurate 2023 calendar. The 2023 WM brochure and calendars are also on the City's website.

### **Upcoming Events**

#### **Styrofoam Event**

Saturday, Jan 14, Beverly High School - confirmed

Lynn, Beverly, and Danvers are joining & sharing the costs- looks to be a good showing of volunteers from each town- If we can have 2-3 volunteers that would round it out: Carol, Geri, Janelle, Demi, Cameron volunteered

Suggestion: Sign at Salem High indicating it's at Beverly this time? Could be worth it.

Early Drop-Off Available: Both Lynn and Beverly have early drop-off. Check Lynn's website for details. Beverly's is at the Main Branch of Public Library, Lower Level, Jan 11-13 during open hours.

Promotion: share it on local Facebook groups- Lynn, Beverly, Salem, Neighborhoods  
Try to comment on Facebook posts using 5 words or more.

#### **Repair Cafe & TerraCycle, February 11 or 18**

A different space: Janelle has had requests for new locations with walking ability for the nearby neighborhood

Discussion about locations: schools, Forest River, Community Life Center,

Parking is an issue- there does need to be parking at these events

Lighting: Cafe needs good lighting and outlets for service providers

For now: Janelle checking with Community Life Center for 2/11 first choice, 2/18 second choice

Consistency with location and events is important but variety spreads it around- this will be a continuing committee conversation

Next steps: line up the service repair people

Tech School contact, Elaine, she's the digital/computer repair contact and wants her students to come and help at the event- Janelle to reach out to her, Nancy to get info she has to Janelle.

Volunteer Service Providers - There is an older list, it may be a mixed group with helper volunteers and service volunteers- Nancy and Carol may be able to help determine who is who. They will work together and get Janelle information.

Whoever enjoys this service will have their name advertised, if desired. Some providers come once, some come regularly.

Past service provider examples: vacuum repair shop, Sewing, furniture repair, sharpening, computer repair.

Carol and Nancy will begin identifying invitees at the first round and get back to Janelle

- Janelle to secure the location
- Service providers to be found and invited
- Nancy to send Janelle contact at Essex Tech for the computer repair group to attend.

**TerraCycle** - on-going drop offs

Janelle: 9663 points so far through the program - equals about \$2,500 Points do not expire.

The Rubbermaid points do not accumulate- Janelle has emptied this bin a few times.

Word seems to be getting out as interest has picked up over time.

Salem keeps adding points as items keep being dropped in the bins— The mailing labels process can be challenging. If TerraCycle has a lot of that product coming in, they won't accept more of that item mailed to them until they process what they have. Janelle will ship more items as they allow and keep items moving as she can. She is heartened by Salem's participatory pace so far.

We can donate the points to interesting groups/actions/events. A few examples: 300 pts to plant 1 tree through the Arbor Day Foundation; 100 pts to Hold companies responsible for waste through action. Collins Middle School/Salem Schools Foundation is the only school-related program in Salem that the committee can give points to at this time.

Committee interest is in keeping the points local at this time. There is great interest in the School Foundation.

- Janelle to reach out to the School Foundation

**Book Swap**, March 18th 1st choice, March 11 second choice

- Janelle reaching out to Community Life Center

Flyer: already done in English and Spanish

Janelle will post on Facebook, GreenSalem, etc

**Newsletter**

It's been going out the 2nd week of the month.

Current audience: Anyone who is signed up- 2600 names so far, mostly Salem residents with some others

Bringing in New readers: City Councillors email lists, including in the New Residents packet (which is also on the website,) Chamber of Commerce,

Topic: Water quality results chart - organized by Ward - could be good to include

- Janelle is asking WM about this

Tip of the month: good tidbits can be from the GreenSalem website to be consistent

- Christmas Trees - Salem residents have until Jan 31st at Story Hill Park on Castle Road if they miss curbside
- Vases - not recyclable but florists will take them back
- Packing Peanuts - some are dissolvable in water because they're made with starch

### **Announcements/Next Up**

New Members: Committee maximum is 11, we have 1 seat to fill - always be recruiting!

Mari Alix is considering applying - she's away and will return in the spring

### **Action Items**

- Janelle- updating the Newsletter
- Janelle- Repair service volunteers
- Joel- New Resident Packet Newsletter entry - Code Red announcements - tend to be around singular events
- Janelle- to reach out to the School Foundation
- Nancy- getting high school tech contact to Janelle
- Nancy & Carol- reviewing the Repair Cafe contact list for Janelle & sending results to her
- Jen- sending minutes to Janelle & Carol
- Carol, Geri, Janelle, Demi, Cameron- volunteered for the 1/14 Styrofoam event