

Town of Brunswick

Minutes of the Recycling and Sustainability Committee

Regular Meeting, August 25, 2016

Present; Mike Wilson (Chair), Mary Ann Haughwout, Punnie Edgerton, Holly Greene, Caron Grich, Sarah Brayman (Town Council Liaison), Jay Astle (Town Staff Liaison)

Mike announced that Alex Anesko has resigned from the Committee. Currently there are six members out of a total of eight authorized.

Punnie provided an update on the effort to introduce a \$0.05 fee on plastic and paper bags used in stores where sales of food constitute at least 2% of the total. Our options are to ask the Town Council to pass an ordinance or to gather signatures for a referendum. It is too late to get a proposal on the ballot for this November. The Committee agreed that the best approach would be to schedule a workshop with the Council to explain the proposal and address their concerns. This would be followed by a formal proposal to be reviewed by the Town staff and presented to the Council for approval. Sarah identified two possible dates for the workshop – September 26 and October 6. She will check with the other Council members and schedule a date.

Mike proposed reviewing the Town's current recycling ordinance, passed in 1993. A new or revised ordinance might include composting and be expanded to cover businesses and non-profits. Punnie suggested that, given the changing economics in the recycling industry, more attention should be paid to encouraging a reduce and reuse mentality. Mike will contact Karen McNaughton, Casella's liaison to the Town, to see if she is available to meet with the Committee, perhaps in November.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15. The next meeting will be on September 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7PM in the Town Hall.