

Brunswick Recycle&Sustainability Committee Meeting
May 25th, 2021
Meeting via Zoom 5.00pm – 7.00pm

Members present: Jamie Ecker (chair), Jenn Hicks (vice-chair), Harry Hopcroft, Steve Weems, Stephen Wood, Kay Mann, Chrissy Adamowicz, Dieuwke Zolas, Elise Hocking (Bowdoin college), Riley Smith (BHS).

Staff present: Jay Astle (Public Works Director), John Eldridge (Town Manager)

Guests: Rep. Ralph Tucker, Bill Good

Call to order: by the chair at 5.01pm

Introduction made by all members of the R&S committee

Introduction and review of the agenda by the chair.

Motion: to approve minutes April 27th, 2021, moved by Harry Hopcroft and 2nd by Elise Hocking.
Unanimously approved.

Staff update: Jay Astle

- Financial numbers received from Casella this afternoon 5/25/21
- Reconvene later to update cost analysis Casella and ecomaine.

Meeting format: John Eldridge

- Starting June 7th Town Council to meet again in Council Room. Members or public not vaccinated need to wear a mask
- Room is set up to have Zoom and in-person meeting
- When the Emergency declaration is over, will the legislation continue to allow Zoom meetings?
- Room 206 at the Town Hall is not set up for Zoom

Action: Jay Astle to explore option of a day the R&S committee can meet in the Council room. Currently the Council room is not available on the 4th Tuesday of the month from 5-7pm.

- Discuss at next meeting June 22nd, 2021

Organics sub-committee report: Chrissy Adamowicz (chair)

- Job description for Intern summer job in draft pending available funding thru the grant
- Draft of intern job description shared with Green Campus Consortium. Intern job for 10 weeks during the summer.

Action:

- Jay Astle to contact Town of Brunswick HR to post intern job description draft
- Sub-committee to meet for 2nd time with superintendent about 2nd organic drop-off possibly at one of the schools

- Riley Smith to meet with BHS environmental club about possible students going door to door about organic recycling, survey questions and providing a report at next R&S meeting.

Solar sub-committee: Steve Weems (chair)

- No solar sub-committee meeting this month
- Local solar farm at Crystal Springs has expanded
- Municipal and schools looking into combined contracting for solar energy

Action:

- Joint meeting of Town Council and School board on June 2nd at 6.30pm. Vendor for solar power to provide presentation.
- Steve Weems to get information if R&S committee members can attend above mentioned meeting?

Education sub-committee: Harry Hopcroft (chair)

- Is the intern still in the Town of Brunswick budget?
- Harry and Stephen are taking the ecomaine Master recycle class. Course will end in October 2021.

Action: Harry and Stephen to ask ecomaine if teaching videos about recycling can be made?

Restore residential glass recycling? John Eldridge (Town manager)

- In May 2020 glass was removed from the recycling for cost concerns
- Recommendations to be reviewed at next R&S meeting June 22nd, 2021 about whether glass recycling should be restarted?

LD489, Pine Tree Amendment: Briefing by Rep. Ralph Tucker. House chair of the Environmental and Natural Resource Committee (13 members)

- Rep. Ralph Tucker reviewed LD489, section 25 to add to the Maine Constitution
- For a Maine Constitutional Amendment, a 2/3 majority is needed and it did not pass.

Motion: Amended: The Brunswick R&S committee requests the Brunswick Town Council to pass a resolution of support in favor of LD489, Pine Tree Amendment.

Motion moved by Steve Weems and 2nd by Elise Hocking. Unanimously approved.

Other business and announcements:

- On June 3rd, 2nd meeting with Superintendent, Jamie Ecker, Steve Weems, and Harry Hopcroft at 0900. Email Jamie if you like to attend the zoom meeting.
- The Extended Producer Responsibility bill passed the Environmental and Natural Resource Committee. The bill to go up for vote in the Maine House and Senate
- The resolution for this bill was passed in 2020 by the Brunswick Town Council.
- The USDA grant due July 16th, 2021 and to be reviewed by the organics sub-committee at next monthly meeting

- Ecomaine to have their annual meeting June 17th, 2021 for 2 hours at Thompson Point. Stephen Wood will be attending. If interested call ecomaine to register and contact Stephen for a ride.

Public comments: None

Meeting adjourned: motion by Steve Weems, 2nd by Chrissy Adamowicz at 7.01pm