

TSARC February 14th 2023

Committee Member	Present?
Jacqueline Alford	X
Chris Carlin	√
Andrea "Andy" Costello	X
Cheryl Dunlea	√
Nancy Irwin	√ Chair
Donna Knott	√ Chair
Barbara Meyer	√
Kimberly Schubert	√
Annette Wells	√
Maurice Goulet, DPW Director, Ex Officio	X
Robert Kennedy, Ex Officio	X
Kristine Trierweiler, Ex Officio	X

Also present: Brittney Franklin, Lily Fayerweather

Meeting opened at 7:03 in Town House and being recorded

1. Call to order

2. Introductions

- **Next meeting:** Jackie and Barbara
- **Future meetings:** April - Chris and Kim (Date and location TBD, possibly in Town House or the Town Garage)
- **Follow-up note taker:** Cheryl
- **Meeting Logistics:** Nancy mentioned that expenses over \$100 will be discussed over two meetings so that there may be opportunity for more members to be present for some portion of discussions

3. Reviewed and approved the January minutes. Have quorum

4. Transfer Station (TS) Committee Initiatives

a) Cheryl

- **Letter to CMRK:** Cheryl opened discussion about the recommendation letter drafted for CMRK to give to other vendors. The committee suggested revisions and Cheryl and Nancy will send the revised letter
- **Wheelock School Plan Recycling Tips update:** Cheryl reported that the February theme is making cards and Valentine's Day boxes using tissue boxes and old cardboard. An article about recycling efforts at Dale Street such as the crayon collection was included in the Hometown Weekly and another article may be appearing in the Patch and Hometown Weekly about the recycling efforts at Wheelock and Dale Street

- **Management of Google Drive:** The committee thanked Annette for the organization done to the Google Drive. Annette will maintain the Calendar and Kim will maintain the Agendas and Minutes. Organization of other sections such as the financial information and mattress information will be done. Content to be added to the Calendar can be sent to Annette
- **Messaging members, Cheryl's email address:** Cheryl reviewed the committee's plans to be attentive of when information should only be sent to committee members without Ex Officio and Town House personnel contacted as well. Only one of the two emails for Cheryl will be used moving forward

b) Donna

- **Naming compactors:** Donna suggested holding the proposed contest to name the two TS compactors in May rather than completing it by Earth Day since she will not be able to attend the March TSARC meeting to help review plans for it. A draft plan will be sent to the committee for review at the March meeting and will be finalized with her at the April meeting. The committee voted 6 Yeses, 1 No to spend \$50 to purchase two \$25 gift cards for the winners
- **Transfer Station Tour for Dale Street School Green Team:** Donna reported that a green team at the school run by one of the 5th grade teachers is interested in having a tour of the TS. The committee discussed plans for Donna to help Maurice and them coordinate a time
- **Medfield TV Recycling Tips:** Donna reported that Medfield TV has offered to record and use Recycling Tips for fillers between their programs. The committee decided that Donna would be the TSARC member to work with them to make the recordings
- **Crayons Recycling Update:**
  - Donna opened discussion about purchasing likely two boxes to send the crayons collected from September through February to Crazy Crayons. UPS Flat Rate Shipping boxes (18"x12"x6", 12"x12"x12", and 16"x12"x9") each cost \$24.30 and are larger and less expensive than sending the crayons through the USPS. There are 15 pounds of crayons from Dale Street and an estimated total of 25 pounds once the crayons from Wheelock are added. The committee voted with 7 Yeses to spend up to \$100 to purchase however many boxes are needed to send the crayons. Donna will test what boxes are needed and discuss plans with Megan for the Town to purchase the boxes
  - Donna mentioned that the crayon collection boxes are currently stored at her house and are poor condition. Cheryl offered to make repairs before they are used at the Medfield Public Library

c) Nancy

- **2023-2025 TS Stickers:** Nancy opened discussion about the color and price for the new stickers. The committee voted to move forward with the TS staff's recommendation for yellow stickers. The sticker price is currently \$110 for the first sticker and \$30 for the

second, third or fourth. For the 2021-2023 stickers, the price was increased from \$100 to \$110. Nancy mentioned that Maurice recommends not increasing the price since new TS services have not been added. The committee discussed how raising the price could help offset increased TS costs and the Medfield TS sticker price is cheaper than most curbside pick-up options and the price in neighboring towns. Kim mentioned that, unless there is a specific plan for the use of the money, keeping the price the same when possible could help encourage use of the TS. Some members were in favor of raising the price, some were undecided and some were in favor of keeping it the same. Nancy and Chris will research the sticker prices for neighboring towns for the final vote next month

- **Bay State Textile Drive 1/21/2023:** Nancy reported that the truck was nearly filled from a large amount of textiles received that day and textiles stored from the December collection. Usually \$150 is received but the collection generated \$337.50. Bay State Textiles gave feedback that items should not be in boxes and only small scatter rugs can be donated. Plastic bags and smaller rugs are needed for them to be able to add the textiles to a baler. Boxes can be used for collections with CMRK but plastic rather than paper bags should be used during collections with all vendors to avoid bags ripping
- **Town Wide Textile Drive - 3/18-3/19:** Nancy reported that a collection will be held 9:00 to 5:00 over two days in the back parking lot of St. Edward Church where the Lions Christmas Tree Sale is usually held. Kim will create a sign for a sandwich board to be added in front of the church to help publicize the collection. Information will be included in the Hometown Weekly, the Patch, Facebook and the recycling tips
- **Authorize approval for \$ for Gorilla Tape for Signs:** Nancy proposed purchasing a few rolls of single sided and double sided tape to be used for the textile bin signs Andy made and to be available for use at the SWAP. The committee voted with 7 Yeses to spend less than \$100 to purchase the tape. Chris will check with Megan about whether the revolving fund or Recycling Dividends would be used
  - **Use of Recycling Dividends:** Barbara mentioned that MassDEP must be contacted for permission to use Recycling Dividends on expenses not stated on a list that used to be on the Recycling Dividends website
- **Painting cans/bottles collection bins:** Nancy reported that she discussed the bins with Maurice and Bobby and Maurice may be able to paint them once the weather improves. The committee discussed possibly asking the boy scouts if someone would be able to help sand and paint the bins. Nancy will contact Troop 89

d) **Barbara**

- **Compost Bin update:** Barbara opened discussion about whether the committee should order compost bins. In the past, the committee has considered Earth Machines and Brave New Composters and has sold the Earth Machines. Wills Hardware currently has two bins and TSARC has two bins stored. TSARC would pay around \$669.20 to receive \$420 from the Recycling Dividends Program (\$1,169.20 - \$500) leading to a net cost to the committee

- Ordering the 20 bin minimum for the Earth Machines would cost \$1,169.20 (\$1,089.20 for the bins plus \$80 to borrow a liftgate from the company)
- The sales may generate \$500 if all the bins were sold for the \$25 reduced price required to help get a Recycling Dividends point
- For 1 point, the amount awarded would be \$420 for towns with 2,000-5,000 residents receiving trash service from the municipality (Medfield currently has around 3,590 first TS stickers)

Considerations mentioned for whether to sell the bins include:

- Barbara mentioned \$420/point may not be the price next year if the committee were to continue pursuing the point
- Nancy brought up that the textile collections generate revenue without additional costs
- Barbara mentioned that composting resulting from the sales may have both beneficial and negative impacts since the composting may happen anaerobically and generate methane if the compost is not mixed
- Barbara mentioned that placing an order with another town for a large quantity of bins could help lower the cost but picking them up and transporting them to the Medfield TS would be challenging without access to a covered truck
- Donna suggested partnering the Medfield Garden Club to share the cost and will contact them to discuss the possibility

The committee will vote at next month's meeting on whether to order the bins

e) **Kim**

- **Discuss Climate Week and TSARC's participation:** Kim opened discussion about whether the committee would like to be involved with Climate Week which will be happening in town from April 29th to Sunday, May 7th. Medfield Environment Action will be planning some events as well as other organizations in Sustainable Medfield and Medfield residents. The committee would like to support Climate Week and Donna suggested contacting Park Street Books about partnering to promote the book "One Million Trees" during the week and offer it at a discounted price. The book is a true story about a family that planted 1 million trees in British Columbia to help combat deforestation. Kim mentioned that more information would be sent out later in the week about Climate Week and it will be discussed at the next meeting of Sustainable Medfield happening on Wednesday, March 1st at 3:30 in the Medfield Public Library

f) **Andy**

- **Signs for rags and bin location:** Nancy opened discussion about whether to pay \$88 from Recycling Dividends to AdPrint in Medway for two sandwich board signs and 10 color copies regarding rags and bin locations. Some of the curb alert sandwich boards will be used for the signs since usually only 2-3 of the 4 sandwich boards are used at a time. 1-2 sandwich boards will be placed at the TS at the ends of the row of textile bins. The committee voted with 7 Yeses to approve paying for the signs. Chris will check with Megan about whether the revolving fund or Recycling Dividends would be used

- **Mass DEP school recycling/reuse/reduce initiatives:** Not discussed this meeting

g) **Jackie**

- **Big Belly update:** Nancy reported that the bill for the bins will be paid next Tuesday and is \$7,903 from Recycling Dividends. Annette mentioned that the bins were installed near CVS since Big Belly was not certain that the bins would receive enough sun on North Street. Donna and Annette will contact Jackie to discuss when the bins should be publicized
- **MHS Environmental Club:** Not discussed this meeting
- **Foam Collection:** Nancy reported that the foam collection is planned for April 1st. The truck may arrive on Friday and be picked up on Monday like was done for the previous collection. There will be a household goods collection through CMRK happening the same day and sharing volunteers may be possible like was done for the electronics collection and clothing and rags collection on December 10th

5. Transfer Station Operations

- **TS Stickers:** Chris reported that 20 first stickers and 9 second stickers were purchased in January
- **Recycling Dividends:** Chris reported that the credit for \$6,600 from last year's submission was received and the total is now \$46,224.95. The committee affirmed through discussion that the money would be a small amount compared to the total cost needed to purchase dishwashers for the schools. Cheryl suggested that the committee consider for next month's meeting whether to form a TSARC subcommittee to work on pursuing dishwashers with members from the school committee/representatives from the school administration as well as representatives from the food service personnel. The subcommittee could work on gathering information and looking into grants to be able to present information in October before the school committee and town budget are planned
- **Revolving Funds:** \$14,499

6. Topics for Constant Contact Newsletter for February:

- Information about the March 18th - 19th Town-wide Bay State Textiles Collection, a planned spring Household Hazardous Waste Collection, and the April 1st foam collection; recycling tip on clear and black plastic takeout containers, reviewing top recycling tips, not recycling shredded paper, and rolling aluminum foil into balls; results from the past months' crayon collections with a photo from weighing the crayons at Dale Street; information and pictures highlighting the Waterproof Bluetooth Speaker, the Digital Food Thermometer and the Garden Tool Set from the Medfield Public Library's Library of Tools; information about the contest to name the compactors coming soon; information from Donna about the Annual Neighborhood Forest free

tree program for Earth Day; announcement that new TS stickers will be available soon and old ones will expire on June 30th; February and March TS hours

## 7. Reports

- **Womens' Clothing SWAP:** Nancy reported for Jackie that there will be a clothing swap at Medfield TV on March 18th. Up to ten items per person will be dropped off on Friday, March 17th and on Saturday residents will be able to take up to 10 items. Leftover donations will be given to Dress for Success and Bay State Textiles. The committee discussed potentially including information about the event in Constant Contact and the recycling tips

## 8. Additional Topics

- a) **Rain Barrel sales:** Annette proposed the committee not pursue rain barrels at this time due to difficulties ensuring that the minimum amount of pre-sales to place an order would be met and difficulties finding a secure location to store the barrels
- b) **Sustainable Medfield:** The committee discussed the request from Sustainable Medfield for TSARC to purchase a portable recycling container for the Library of Things to be used by anyone who uses town space (they are now required to recycle). The cost is \$158.67 total for the ClearStream One portable bin. [www.clearstreamrecycling.com/ClearStream-ONE-3-Hole-Blue-1-Pack-p/4cso1b001.htm](http://www.clearstreamrecycling.com/ClearStream-ONE-3-Hole-Blue-1-Pack-p/4cso1b001.htm) The committee will vote on the bin next month and so far opinions are 4 Nos, 2 Undecided, 1 Yes. Questions discussed include:
  - Would bag refills be available at the library or paid for by the vendor? The committee would likely have the vendor pay for them
  - The committee has advocated for vendors to take responsibility for recycling. Does offering a free bin advance or detract from that goal?
  - Would people know about the bin and would people be likely to go to the library to borrow it?
  - Would the bin be used mainly by vendors or by groups/committees/individuals? At least one vendor that uses town space in the summer already has bins
  - Who would be involved with promoting it? The library, Sustainable Medfield, the Board of Selectmen when issuing permits for town events?
  - How many bins would be needed for it to be effective?
  - Would repair to the bin at times be needed and who would do it?
- c) **Partner with Park Street Books to offer 20% discount on book, "One Million Trees":** Will be pursued for Climate Week
- d) **Storage of foam:** Cheryl suggested the committee consider whether the mattress trailer the committee voted in December to purchase could also be used once it arrives to store foam from the SWAP area during the months between foam collections. The committee decided that using the space for both items would likely not be feasible

## 9. Dates

- a) Spring - HH waste collection date/time TBD
- b) Spring - foam collection
- c) April 1 - Household goods/clothing collection

Next TSARC meeting set for Monday, March 6th at 9:00 am via Zoom. Adjourned 9:02