

TSARC April 12th 2022

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

Also present: Nick Milano, Megan Sullivan

Meeting opened remotely through Zoom at 9:06 and being recorded

1. Introductions

- **Next meeting:** Jackie and Cheryl chair
- **Future meetings:** June - Jackie and Donna; July - Donna and Barbara
- **Follow-up note taker:** Cheryl

2. Reviewed and approved the March minutes. Have quorum

3. TS Committee Initiatives

- A. **School Plan Update:** Cheryl reported for Jackie that some high school students are planning to do a clean-up in connection with the April 23rd and 24th Medfield Clean-Up Days. The principals

of the three elementary schools and Cheryl continue to discuss plans for collaborating during the next school year and they have been sent the TSARC newsletter.

- B. **Donation Bin Fees:** Nancy reviewed the TSARC Bin Info April 2022 spreadsheet.
- Information recorded includes the **current # of bins**, the **average # of bins** (ex. Goodwill has an average of 1.5 bins since they had 2 bins in January 2021 but were changed to 1 bin in July 2021), the **2021 soft poundage** (either the exact pounds received by an organization or, for The Salvation Army, their reported estimate), the **pro-rated poundage** (pounds/average # of bins), the **total \$ rec'd yr** (money given to TSARC), and payment scenarios for charging organizations by pound. Bay State Textiles received 116,920 pounds of textiles town-wide and the poundage recorded in the spreadsheet is the quantity received from the TS .
 - Red Cross (Windward Trading) and CMRK are for-profit organizations and Goodwill, The Salvation Army, Bay State Textiles and the Epilepsy Foundation are 501(c)(3) organizations.
 - Megan suggested that the Bay State Textile poundage should potentially be used when calculating the pro-rated poundage for all of the bins since they use a scale in their trucks to determine the weight.
 - Nancy will confirm with the TS the pounds given to Goodwill since the amount is higher than expected, over 4 times higher than for Bay State Textiles.
 - The committee discussed the request made to the Red Cross to increase the payment for their bin from \$500 to \$1,000. The Red Cross mentioned in a phone conversation with Cheryl that the price increase would be challenging due to increases experienced during the pandemic in the price of gas, the wages paid to their workers and the cost of shipping containers used for excess contributions from collections .
 - Will vote next month on plans for the bins. Hope to keep fees similar between organizations. May charge no fee for any organization; 'per pound, as with Bay State Textiles; or \$500, \$750 or \$1,000 per bin. Will discuss as well whether to charge a fee for both non-profit and for-profit organizations and what should be done with the Red Cross bin if cannot agree upon a fee with them.
- C. **SWAP Area Clean-Up in April--Open in May:** Nancy discussed how cleaning the tents will happen April 22nd, 23rd and 24th and, if necessary, the following Friday and Saturday, April 28th and 29th. The SWAP will open May 4th and it is expected that the first two weeks will be busy. Continuing to look for volunteers for the cleanings and the SWAP and to publicize emailing medfieldswapshop@gmail.com to volunteer. The committee voted to allocate \$200 to purchase new lanyards, packing tape, markers and extension cords if electricity is hooked up to the SWAP. Barbara mentioned that a lot of mud and leaves were cleaned out of the tents by the TS staff using a sidewalk sweeper which made the Foam collection much easier and will help with the start of the SWAP.

- D. **Replacement trailer for donations:** Andy reported that she and Nancy have learned that the state will be offering a grant in June or July for a free trailer. The trailer from Eagle Leasing can be purchased at the negotiated rate of \$4,500 plus \$149 for shipping until April 22nd. The committee decided to continue with making the purchase and to apply for the grant potentially to receive an extra trailer. Would likely not receive the free trailer since many towns may apply for the grant in preparation for the mattress waste ban and the TS already received a trailer from the state 5-6 years ago through a grant for the mattress program. Eagle Leasing is able to wait on delivering the trailer until the location for it in the TS is known later this spring.
- E. **Partner with MEMO Update:** Cheryl reported for Donna that MEMO has reviewed the proposal. They would like to go ahead with it and speak with Donna about it further. The proposal describes TSARC sending legal-sized posters to participating businesses for them to display in their windows or a prominent location. Four posters would initially be sent with simple messages about recycling: do not bag recyclables, no clothes or linens in the bin, no foods or liquids in recycling, and no hoses, wires, chains or electronics. Posters would be changed every 6 weeks and TSARC would send a reminder email to MEMO to pass along to businesses. A tag line would be included on the posters and in the TSARC newsletter about supporting these earth-friendly businesses. The committee discussed whether the businesses would be listed in one or each newsletter and will recommend to Donna including the Sustainable Medfield badge on the poster. Will vote on allocating money to begin printing the posters from RecycleSmart once an exact cost estimate is determined.
- F. **Transfer Station Tour:** Cheryl reported for Donna that the tour through the library for kids in grades 2 - 5 is scheduled for Thursday, May 19th. Donna is waiting to hear back from the Hometown Weekly and Medfield TV whether they would like to cover the event .
- G. **TerraCycle:** Not discussed further
- H. **Litter Letter:** Cheryl reported that Donna has contacted a few people from Sherborn who participated in the project last year and are participating in it again this year. Girl Scout Troop 8356 and Medfield Parks and Recreation have become involved in the project for Medfield. Working on plans with Medfield Parks and Recreation to display the letters near the Pfaff Center
- I. **Rain Barrels:** Cheryl reported on Annette's research about the Great American Rain Barrel Company. The company would manage the ordering and residents' payments for the barrels and the committee would assist with advertising. Would need to decide where and when delivery would happen and have pre-orders of at least 24 barrels for the company to make the delivery. Considering contacting the Medfield Garden Club to see if members may be interested in ordering the barrels.

- J. **Foam Collection - report:** Cheryl reported for Jackie that the April 2nd collection was successful and filled one truck. The committee discussed possibly holding another collection in the fall. Will work on planning a day at the next meeting and mention in the newsletter that another collection may happen so that residents can plan to save Foam. May look for a co-chair for organizing the collection from someone in the community.

- K. **Big Belly Compactor update:** Cheryl reported for Jackie that she is waiting to learn more about when the compactor will be installed.

- L. **Bottle/Can report Walpole Redemption Center:** Not discussed further

- M. **Compost Bins:** The committee discussed that there are 5 bins left; the next steps for selling bins will be determined based on the interest level from residents and asking the DPW if there would be a place to store the bins. Will either order another set of 20 bins now or wait until orders are received. Jackie will oversee the project based on interest gauged from the Spring Greening Fair and the committee voted 4 Yes and 1 No to authorize money for her to purchase the bins if needed. Wills currently only has one bin for demonstration and Megan will ask how many they would like to purchase. Would receive two points for Recycling Dividends if some bins are sold to residents at \$25 by the end of June rather than at cost as is done for the bins sold to Wills.

- N. **Battery Collection:** Cheryl reported for Jackie that she has not had success in contacting an individual Bobby recommended for more information about single use batteries. A collection will likely not be pursued further based on what Jackie and Barbara have learned about the cost involved and the challenges with logistics.

5. Transfer Station Operations

- A. **TS**
Stickers (2021-2022) - Counts and Fees: 18 new stickers, 8 second stickers and 1 third sticker were purchased in March.

- B. **Recycling Dividends and Revolving Funds:** The revolving fund remains at \$8,980 and the Recycling Dividends remains at \$31,920-

6. Topics for Constant Contact Newsletter for April

- Thanking participants in the Senior Center Yard Sale and the FOAM collection; information about a possible Foam collection in the fall; recycling tips on dos and don'ts for recycling bathroom products; the impact on reducing litter if 10% of Medfield residents picked up one

piece of litter per day; only recycling paper that is larger than a credit card and dry; recommendations for Earth Day elementary school age children's books and earth-friendly books for adults; information about the April 30th Spring Greening Fair and Yard Sale; information about the TS trailer; curb alerts continuing; information about the April 23rd and 24th Medfield Clean-Up Days; update about the SWAP opening May 4th and how residents can help by dropping off cleaning supplies, volunteering for cleaning the tents or volunteering for the SWAP; information about the Recycling Ambassadors and the TS tour; April and May transfer station hours.

7. Reports:

- A. **Sustainable Medfield:** The Spring Greening Fair and Yard Sale will be held on April 30th at the First Parish Unitarian Universalist Church with booths from organizations in town. Megan discussed how Jackie will run a table for TSARC with information about food scrap composting. May have sign-up sheets for ordering compost bins and possibly rain barrels. A plan for Earth Day similar to activities happening in Natick this year may be pursued by Sustainable Medfield for next year (Groups in Natick coordinated events related to Earth Day into one weekend publicized through EcoNatick's Portal).

- B. **Recycle Mass** - Chris on Thursday, March 31st and Andy on Friday, April 1st: Some of the talks attended were not relevant to the Medfield TS but learned about the new Maine and Oregon EPR laws, what some towns are doing to plan for the new solid waste bans such as Eastham becoming the central collection point for mattress collections for neighboring towns, and where an organization that collects textiles from non-profits such as Goodwill and Big Brother Big Sister sends the items. A behavioral analyst reported about having good results when she used raffle tickets for prizes as positive reinforcement to raise awareness in a school about recycling. Information about it will be sent by Cheryl to the Medfield principals.

8. Additional Topics

- A. **Discuss TSARC budget spending items:** Payments for the Big Belly compactor, the trailer and the printing of the insert are through the Recycling Dividends. Megan and Andy reported that they will be reviewing plans for the budget.

- B. **Use of grant funds:** Not discussed further

- C. **Flyer in Hometown Weekly:** The flyer describing all that TSARC does was completed and included in the Hometown Weekly.

- D. **TS Online Brochure:** Barbara reported that the edits are not online yet but have been sent to Donna Cimeno for incorporation into the brochure.

- E. **Zoom or online for next month:** Will continue to meet through Zoom in April and discuss the format of the meetings again next month.

- F. **Medfield Day Recycling:** Chris reported that he will be contacting the Boy Scouts or Girl Scouts to see if they could help with recycling at Medfield Day. MEMO has asked for TSARC to run the planning and has stands for bags that would be available for use. The committee discussed contacting the DPW, the Board of Health and the Selectmen about having a recycling plan be a requirement for anyone applying for a permit to hold an event in town. The letter will be drafted by Chris .

- G. **Kitchen Scrap Baskets:** The committee voted last fall to give baskets to someone in Walpole investigating starting a food composting program. Barbara gave them 75 baskets recently , and around 15 baskets remain.

9. Next TSARC meeting set for Monday, May 9th at 9:00am via Zoom. Adjourned 10:29.