

ARSWC Meeting Minutes - September

Date: September 15, 2022

Started: 5:36, *Adjourned:* 7:00

Location: Zoom

Attending: Nadine de Vries, Wiebke Theodore, John Hinds, Roz McLean, Ros Arienti, Katie Smith

Approve July & August Minutes: August minutes are going to be kept for our use only so they are not going to be voted on by the committee. July minutes are not in the folder- defer to next meeting.

Problem of Wet Recyclables How do we communicate the need for dry recyclables to residents? Does Craig have a handle on how much was thrown away on that rainy day (August 26)? John has several things to discuss with Craig. Bath residents have bins with no tops and use Pinetree; it appears that Bath also has wet recyclables- are they thrown away or recycled.

- John will ask Craig about this.

Annual Bulky Items Pick-up - Craig has agreed to do this in November, for the month.

- Katie will write a notice, review with Nadine. Then the committee can review and the notice will be distributed in late October.

Arrow Articles on Minimizing Plastics Use and Proposed Schedule Change

Process for changing the schedule: Walter suggested writing an article for changing and why we want to, publish it in the Arrow and get feedback. As long as there is not any pushback we can go ahead with the change to biweekly pickups all year.

- Nadine will do a draft article which includes cost savings, convenience of a simpler schedule and decreased emissions
- Roz and John will research the numbers, and Katie will read old minutes from last year.
- What is the cost savings? Craig needs to be consulted about the cost savings. How does Craig arrive at the number- does he figure in the trips he takes per year? If he is going to make extra trips, the change would be a wash.

Article on minimizing plastic use: Reduce plastic bag use, etc. Next Arrow for March. More ideas need to be gathered.

Noncompliance

Letter was approved by the Select Board. Discussion on how to use it- discuss it and use it after a vote by the committee. This is a step above a left behind slip. A pattern of behavior that neglects the Town Ordinance needs to be established in order to receive the letter.

- A notice in the Arrow with LBS description and reminder of the ordinance needs to happen in the Arrow as the Tip of the Month for October.
- Roz will write something and send it around for approval.

New Recycling Shed Plan - Wiebke

Wiebke met with Chris Wilkinson. He said that we can't build within the setback. If the swap shed is a temporary structure that can be moved (flatbed trailer) this type of structure could gain interest of a lot of people. It would not need to comply with setback rules. This is more doable than the idea of a converted school bus. Either could be a part of a parade. Working with Building Materials Exchange and upcycled material. Sharing the shed with broadband may not fly- the site is limited due to trees, roadwork etc., which is contradictory to what we want to

achieve. We would need letters in hand from stakeholders to support the grant application if we go that route. Community colleges have sheds that students build- possibly customized for our needs. Where does scrap metal go? John's initial thought is that this flat-bed would be only a swap shed. Scrap metal could go behind a wooden fence, if Chris Wilkinson could be approached and would agree. Could a cart with sides live behind the shed for the scrap? A removable fence on the back of the shed is a possibility. The enclosure is also used for large appliances.

- Wiebke is willing to look into this.

Composting Survey

If we are going to survey the town, are there any other topics we want to add? Do you recycle, do you compost, do you use the recycling shed? Are you interested in car sharing? Do you have tips on recycling/reusing that you would like to share? Are you interested in doing tasks or being an advisor on the ARSWC team? 10-12 items tops. Use Survey Monkey or Google Form. This will be the November Tip of the Month.

- Ros is willing to make up a survey, and committee members could be administrators and make changes.

SHED update -

Collection of devices is steady, with a reasonable amount of misuse of the shed example: case of spray cans of paint, and a gallon of paint came in. Have to improve signage, but signs still get ignored. Residents need to do their part, not leave it for us. A No Hazardous Materials sign would help. We agree that Wiebke's sign should go up.

- John and Wiebke will work on the signage together.

Tip of the Month

Roz's tip will be sent around and approved.

Paul's "Retirement"

Freecycle - Is not completely automated. This is a problem, as is a spam bot which has been an issue recently. There is another site, called Freecycle.org, that we could use. If we have the Swap Shop and Arrowsic Google Group, do we need Freecycle? Freecycle and Google Group are for large objects or large amounts of things that would not be appropriate for the Swap Shop.

- Committee will look at Freecycle.org before the next meeting and make a decision on how to move forward.

Need to recruit a new member- Let's spread the word.

Craig's contract and letter- Select Board will report back on Craig's increase. His numbers should go into the real contract.

- Katie will put numbers in the contract, once emailed from Roz.

Next meeting: October 20, 2022

Respectfully Submitted,
Katie Smith