

Arrowsic Solid Waste/Recycling Committee Meeting Minutes—October 20, 2014

Committee members present: John Hinds, Roz McLean, Paul Schlein, Damian Sokol

- The meeting convened at 6:02 PM at the Arrowsic Town Hall.

New Brochure

- Damian said he verified all of the information in the draft of the brochure that needed to be checked.
- The next step will be for Ros make any final changes and send around a new draft for review.

Arrowsic Arrow Article

- With the deadline for the November issue of *The Arrowsic Arrow* coming up the next day, it was decided to submit a short piece on the new recycling shed lights: Spotlight on Recycling! *Paul will put something together and send it to Quinn.

Recycling Shed Lighting

- Everyone agreed that the new motion-sensor, LED, recycling shed lights were working well and were a helpful improvement.

Planning for the Next Town Roadside Cleanup

- Paul explained that, when he was at the Arrowsic Conservation Commission meeting, one thing led to another, and he ended up discussing the ASWRC's plan for the Roadside Cleanup in its entirety, when at least two Committee members were supposed to have met with the ACC to discuss it. He said all he did was to convey exactly what the Committee has discussed and agreed upon, as documented in the meeting minutes. Committee members present said that was acceptable and should work out well at next year's cleanup.
- One of the concerns raised by the ACC was how will volunteers know what is recyclable and what is not, the issue being the condition of the items in question, cleanliness, etc. John spelled out a number of guidelines that could be used (would be detailed before the cleanup), and had already discussed with Paul trying to get more information on this subject from our regional recycling companies. Paul said he was researching this, with calls to ecomaine and Cassella. John said one thing would be to ask what determines when items are rejected and also to ask what is the recycling rejection rate.
- The Committee discussed getting volunteers to help sort everything out and how recyclable items could be cleaned.
- It was decided that, for simplicity's sake, and to avoid any confusion, the announcements made by the ACC and the ASWRC for the event should be combined. *This will need to be discussed with the ACC.

Recycling/Composting Survey

- The Committee discussed the topic of developing a townwide survey on recycling, including questions on composting, still identified as a critical area that needs to be quantified in town.
 - In an attempt to save time and not have to start from the beginning, Paul said he had made a few contacts in an attempt to find similar surveys that had been done in Maine:
 - Maine State Sustainability Director George MacDonald—He would check for surveys and also verified the 43% figure for the amount of compostable material contained in household solid waste.
 - Victor Horton, recycling contact at the Maine Resource Recovery Association—He was not aware of any surveys that municipalities had done directed to town members, but provided numerous ideas for questions that could be asked, and offered to review any survey the Committee developed.
 - ecomaine—Left voicemail with questions.
 - Cassella would also be contacted.

- The Committee developed the following possible questions for the survey:
 - *Are you aware that recycling is mandatory in Arrowsic? [Yes/No]*
 - *Are you familiar with Arrowsic's recycling guidelines? [Yes/No]*
 - *Do you recycle? [Yes/No]*
 - *Are there items that you recycle outside of town? [Yes/No]*
 - *If yes to the above, what items are they? [write-in answer]*
 - *If you do not recycle, why not?[write-in answer]*
 - *Do you compost? [Yes/No]*
 - *What do you compost? [choices: Fruits/Vegetables, Yardwaste (weeds, leaves, grass, etc.), Meat, other]*
 - *How much do you compost weekly? [approximate number of pounds]*
 - *If you do not compost, why not? [write-in answer]*
 - *Additional Comments [write-in answer]*
 - *Contact Information [voluntary]*

- John said the survey shouldn't be done until the new brochure was circulated in town.

Meeting Schedule

- Next meeting, Monday, November 17, 6:00 PM.
- The meeting adjourned at 7:03 PM.

**Denotes action items*

ps—10/22/14