

ASWRC Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, July 14, 2015

Attendance: Ros Arienti, Jon Biehler, John Hinds, Paul Schlein, Katie Smith, Maggie Woodruff

Meeting convened: 6:05 pm

June minutes approved, sent to Selectmen and put in book.

Town Meeting recap: Paul has gotten good feedback. There were thought provoking ideas generated from statistics in particular.

Next steps with survey data: Do we need to do anything else with the data? Paul projects that 40 tons of compost could be collected by the town. (9lbs. per household per week.) The survey results will go in the Arrow this month.

Arrow article: There will be an article in the Arrow regarding all data from the survey as well as a thank you to the community for their involvement. Also a notice for Bulky Waste Pickup dates will be in the next Arrow edition. Can we encourage more townspeople to be involved through getting more email addresses? Can we be sure that everyone gets the Arrow somehow?

Major initiative(s) for next year: Composting: Could we send out more information about what could be composted, etc. Next spring, plastic bins will again be available for purchase through Bath and must be ordered by Earth Day in April. The committee will be creating a flyer about composting. An effort will be made to organize at least one composting workshop for townspeople as well, with an expert from the Cooperative Extension or the State. Timing is the question. Could start doing the flyer and that could be distributed at the seminar. Ros agreed to start work on the new flyer, as she did with the recycling brochure.

Contracts update: Paul assumed that the contract had been signed by everyone for Craig Rogers. As of the previous night the Casella contract was signed and was sent back to Casella. All of the town's changes, including caps on trash/recycling increases, and new wording that would allow trash to be brought to the Bath Landfill or another facility if West Bath is closed, were accepted. This is a three year contract.

Update on handling of items in Recycling Shed: There has been a lot of action there lately and Jon has done a great job with items: he took batteries to the Bath Landfill and reports that Goodwill no longer accepts electronics. The Landfill will take electronics at no charge, but no TVs (\$10 charge). Also at the Landfill, items such as transformers, need to be labeled with what chemicals they contain, or they will assess a \$10 fee. Also, the Landfill will not accept any Freon-containing appliance, such as a humidifier or refrigerator, unless the Freon has been removed. The Landfill gave Jon contacts who can remove the Freon for fees ranging from \$30 to \$50. There are changes coming about with recycling, so we will need to be aware of them and be prepared to be stuck with or deal with odd items. Will need to do some research on propane tank disposal and add this and something about Freon to the next brochure edition. We have been paying the fees and getting reimbursed by the town treasurer. What should we do with old TVs? Does Pinetree take them? Paul will research this point. Scrap metal: John can call a person he knows to take scrap metal away. John will ask the scrap metal man if smaller quantities could be dropped off at his location (S&C Scrap). John would consider taking scrap back to his house, as he has done in the past, making a pile, having it removed periodically, and being sure to get the total weight for our records and the state report.

Can we educate the town about the costs associated with recycling batteries (\$60 to buy the box and mail it to the facility)? Should Arrowsic be depositing its batteries in Bath, to piggyback on their disposal fees? Bath Deputy Public Works/Landfill Director Lee Leiner will be consulted regarding this question. Can we get a copy of their lists of what they take at the Landfill.

Brochures in Recycling Shed: There are a few in there now, attached to the poster. Should we keep a regular supply there? Yes. Weatherproof holder outside? Yes.

Bulky Items Pickup Days: Craig Rogers agrees with what we discussed after last year for Bulky Items Pickup Day.

Quoted here from last year's meeting notes: 'Craig Rogers was generally satisfied with how the collection went. Rogers said the turnout for both weeks was good, and most people called ahead to make arrangements, some opting for another day in the week. The only problems arose with a number of people who hadn't made special arrangements and were overlooked until they called and their items were then picked up. Rogers said, next time the best approach would be to have everyone call ahead to make arrangements, and then he won't have to check every road in town, whether there are participants or not. Rogers also said it would be better to have the pickup earlier in August, probably the second and third weeks, but not the Friday before Labor Day, because the landfill might close early and he wouldn't be able to drop everything off until after the long weekend. He also suggested doing one week before Labor Day (9/7), to catch summer residents, and then the second week after Labor Day.'

Dates for first Bulky Items Pickup will be sometime between 8/17-8/21, and after Labor Day, the week of 9/14-9/18. Craig will pick the days from these targeted weeks. A flyer, with form/checklist at the bottom, so that they know exactly what they need to tell Craig, was suggested. Paul will revise the current flyer and run it by the committee. Craig will change costs and that will be included in the flyer.

When should notice regarding Bulky Items Pickup be sent out to the town? The flyer will be sent out two weeks before each event.

Kitty litter disposal is a question. The waste is heavy. What do animal shelters do? Katie will research this concern.

Cell phones can be put in the Recycling Shed, but, with their chargers, they can also go to the Bath police station to be reused.

Do we need more members?

Work tasks/schedule will be discussed next time. Possibly someone could work with Roz to create computerized spreadsheets with all the recycling and trash data, costs, etc. This would make the state report easier as well.

Additional Items:

Recycling/ Composting table at the Scholarship Committee yard sale?

Next meeting date: August 17, Monday, 6:00 pm.

Meeting adjourned: 7:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Katie Smith