



# Town of Harpswell

P.O. Box 39

Harpswell, ME 04079

## Recycling Committee Minutes

April 20, 2022 at 4:00 pm via Zoom

**Members:** ✓Chuck Perow, ✓George Barker, ✓Philip Conner, Jeff Stann, ✓Jack Stokinger, Bob Eaton, Marge Webster Warren, ✓Gina Snyder

**Absent:** Bob Eaton, Marge Warren, Jeff Stann

**Meeting called to order: 4:04**

**Approval of Minutes from 3/16/22 meeting with corrections.**

**New Business Discussion:**

- 1. We updated the Harpswell Anchor article list. PGC will send to to members for info and corrections.**
- 2. We decided to go forward with the “Where to Dispose of list.” We will finalize the list via email consensus and PGC will work with Chuck to get a finalized version on town website. The list can be updated as needed on the website. We will provide source information about labels if residents want to use them. Chuck suggested that the town not offer labels for sale or offer them free of charge to residents.**
- 3. Chuck is opposed to asking or requiring the professional trash haulers to deposit separated compost. Even though the trash haulers do not pay a fee to the town, they must abide by all rules regarding trash disposal and recycling. Recycling is mandatory, but compost is optional. Chuck has offered to provide the Garbage to Gardens containers to the haulers but they have shown no interest. Harpswell has had 2 haulers but one of them is expected to leave the business and it is not known if there will be a successor.**
- 4. We had a discussion about the short term rental housing businesses in Harpswell. Chuck feels strongly that even though the owners of all of these houses pay property taxes, plus a 9% tax to the state, they are in fact businesses and should not use the free recycling/trash facility but should dispose of their trash, etc. at the transfer station for the normal fees.**

**The discussion drifted into the fact that there are no local regulations for the many short term rental houses and some may not be equipped with sufficient safety devices such as fire extinguishers and alarms. Portland experienced a fire a few years ago which resulted in several deaths and may have happened because of inadequate safety guidelines. Also**

rental houses sometimes have excessive occupancy or otherwise create disturbance for Harpswell residents. It was suggested that Dave Chipman, Art Howe, Tim Clark look into similar towns for examples of how this is managed. One to check out is North Conway, NH.

**5. The Recycling committee has volunteered to pick up trash bags collected by other volunteers along Harpswell's public roads. We will have 3 trucks for John Gilliam Day as follows:**

**>Bob Eaton and Gina Snyder will use either Bob's or Gina's truck and Bob's trailer and pick up Harpswell Island Road in Orr's Island and Bailey Island.**

**>Jack Stokinger, Dave Chipman, and George Barker will go in Jack's truck using Chuck's trailer and pick up 123 and Mountain Road**

**>Philip Conner and Mark Hershey will use Mark's truck and pick up north of Mountain road on Harpswell Islands Road and Cundy's Harbor Road**

**Roadside pick up should begin after 1:00 to allow other volunteers time to fill bags and leave them along the Harpswell public roads and deposit the material at the recycling center before 4:00pm.**

**Truck and trailers should use tarps to avoid spilling trash bags on the road way enroute to the recycling center.**

**Old Business:**

**Chuck plans to do defibrillator training for staff on the first Thursday that the facility reopens by delaying opening till 10:00 to allow time for all to be trained at once.**

**Next Meeting: May 18, 2022**

**Meeting Adjourned: 5:18**

**Respectfully submitted**

**Philip Conner  
Chair**