



Town of Harpswell

P.O. Box 39

Harpswell, ME 04079

Recycling Committee Minutes February 21, 2018

Attendees: Chuck Perow, George Barker, Mike McCabe, Jack Stokinger, Philip Conner, Dave Chipman joined us later after BOS meeting ended

Meeting called to order at 5:01 pm.

Minutes from December 20, 2017 and January 24, 2018 were approved

New Business Discussion:

Chuck Perow lead us thru a thorough detailed review of the amounts of material that were processed by the Recycle Center and the Transfer Station in 2017. He provided us with:

- a. the “Annual Solid Waste Management Report for Licensed Transfer Stations and Landfills for 2017”**
- b. Chuck’s report to the BOS dated January 12, 2018: Recycling Center Report of December 2017**
- c. Chuck’s annual report to the BOS for 2017**

These reports will be emailed to members of the committee.

There was a discussion about how we might encourage Harpswell residents to improve the ratio of trash (MSW) to recycle by taking advantage of the the Center’s compost disposal and by better sorting thus reducing the amount of trash deposited. The goal is 35% recycle to trash and we consistently exceed this. Chuck said that before we started providing the Compost bins, 30-35% of the MSW consisted of material that could have gone to Compost bins. Use of the bins has improved this but usage can be improved as users become more accustomed to using the bins.

Compost produced from the collected material will be available at the Center mid to late April.

We discussed the merits of having a packet of information prepared and made available to new residents of Harpswell. This could be provided when the record of new ownership is received by the town and when a certificate of occupancy is issued for new homes. This could be combined with information about other aspects of Harpswell.

Harpswell home owners who rent out their properties should also be better informed about how to properly utilize the the Center. Chuck said that he will contact rental agents and services that are involved to disseminate the information.

We talked about the desirability of the Committee writing a letter to the BOS about the problems caused by renters at the facility. Dave Chipman said that when this was last discussed at a BOS meeting, the only comments from the public was pro-renters.

We discussed the hours of operations of the facility; Chuck explained the need for the crew to have 2 successive days off, and he provided us with comparative hours of operation of Brunswick, Bath, Phippsburg, and Topsham facilities which demonstrated that our facility is comparatively more available.

Descriptive literature and signage was discussed; Chuck provided us with a revised copy of the Guidelines. The guidelines are quite complicated as is the process. Fortunately the signage is easier to understand than the Guidelines.

Old Business:

Ran out of time; Not discussed. Because of a scheduling snafu, we were using the BOS meeting room and they were about to start their meeting.

Next meeting: March 21, 2018

Meeting Adjourned at 6:30ish

Respectfully submitted,

Philip Conner