

Rye Recycling Education Committee
Tuesday June 16, 2015
6:30-7:55 PM, Rye Library
MEETING MINUTES

Present: John Provencher, Joan Provencher, Deidre Smyrnos, Lorrie Platt, Jozef Platt

The meeting was called to order by John Provencher.

Food Scrap Collection

Deidre and Joan spent two hours on June 13 at the Transfer Station where they met with Rye residents to discuss the expanded composting program. They reported that it was a good way to alert more of the community about the expansion of the program and to answer questions. They heard from many residents that they would like to be able to recycle more (the #3-#7s) of their plastics.

The committee discussed whether this issue is within our charge. We agreed that, while we would collect information, this is an issue for the selectmen to resolve.

Distribution of Poster to Recruit Additional Committee Member

The committee had designated Jozef to develop and distribute a poster to publicize the opening on the committee for an additional member. Jozef reported that he had distributed posters at the Town Hall, the Library and The Hungry Horse. He will continue his efforts. The committee suggested Summer Sessions, Petey's Red Roof, the Serenity Café and 603 Burgers as other possible places to post the notice.

Student Poster Contest

We are planning to hold a poster contest in the fall for Rye students in grades K-8. The posters can be about any aspect of recycling. The brochure for the transfer station could benefit from updating. Lorrie will talk to Alan about possibly including winning posters in a new brochure. John suggested that we wait to announce the contest until after the first few weeks of the new school year to allow for more participation as students will have a lot of information to process at the beginning of the year.

Recycling Education Table at the Farmers Market

Jozef will attend the June 24, 2015 Farmers Market to distribute information about the expanded composting program. He will bring brochures that explain what is compostable and his composting bucket, so that people can see that it can be as simple as a paint bucket with a screw-on top. He will also try to have a picture of what Mr. Fox's compost toter looks like and explain where it is located at the transfer station.

Commingled Plastics

Deidre explained some of the factors that could affect a decision about whether to commingle all recyclable plastics. There are both pros and cons to expanding the plastic collected for recycling to include #3-#7s.

Information Gathering

John reported that he and Joan had observed the operation at the Sutton Transfer Station where residents drive in to the transfer building but stay in their cars and the transfer station employees take the recyclables and trash from the cars.

Although this is probably not feasible given the layout of our transfer station, John offered to follow up to see whether there are other practices which we might use to increase efficiency in our recycling program.

Recycling Brochure

Deidre will scan an older recycling center brochure that features RES artwork and ask Janice to post on our area of website. We should talk to Dennis, Alan and RES teachers about updating this brochure (include additional information on items not mentioned in current brochure).

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

The committee set the next meeting date for August 18th at 6:30 p.m. in the library

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