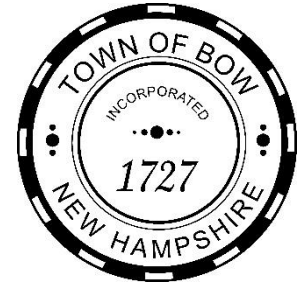




**Town of Bow Recycling and Solid Waste
Committee**

Meeting Minutes

March 1, 2022 Meeting



To: David Stack, Town Manager

cc: Bow Administrative Assistant, Committee Webpage, Recycling Committee Members

Re: Recycling and Solid Waste Committee Minutes for March 1, 2022 Meeting (FINAL AND REVISED)

Date: March 1, 2022

Committee Member Attendees: Sherri Cheney, Beth Titus, Taj Pietkiewicz, Mark Davis and Danielle Ruane

Also in attendance: Jessica Dunbar and Steve Lisauskas

MEETING BEGAN AT 7:37 PM.

1. Approval of Meeting Minutes of the February 1, 2022 Meeting

Sherri recommended revisions to minutes to change "Zero Waste" to "Waste Zero." Mark Davis moved to approve the minutes. Seconded by Taj Pietkiewicz. Approved unanimously.

2. Tipping Fees

Sherri Cheney reported on status of tipping fees. In January of 2022, the fee went down to \$68.94. In February of 2022, the fee was further reduced to \$68.27. The cost of recycling continues to be less expensive than the cost to dispose of trash. The Committee will continue to monitor fluctuations in the fees.

3. Discussion of Trash and Single Stream Collected

In the month of January of 2022, Pinard collected 73.34 tons of recyclables (in comparison to 77.55 in January of 2021). Discussion of creating a graph of tonnage collected for the town's annual report or website. Sherri Cheney reported that she reviewed the spreadsheet

provided by Pinard for January, and compared it to bills from Pinard and weight slips. Sherri Cheney reported that there was one load of trash that was brought to Zero Waste, but the Town Manager was informed and approved. The trash was brought to Zero Waste because Wheelabrator was unavailable to receive the load.

4. Waste Zero and Helpsy– Textile Recycling:

Steve Lisauskas from Waste Zero attended the meeting to discuss the textile recycling program. Steve discussed that textiles represent 6-8% of the waste stream, but only 15% is reused or recycled. The national average of textiles thrown away each year is estimated to be 70 pounds per household. Steve provided a number of examples of how textiles can be reused or recycled (for example, there is a big market in parts of Asia for single shoes).

Helpsy is a regional business that covers the territory from South Carolina to New Hampshire. It currently has a facility in Massachusetts where items collected in our community will be sorted.

Helpsy will pick up textiles from residences. There is a dropdown calendar on the Helpsy website for residents to choose which date they want to have items collected. Bow will need to choose which day of the week the collection will occur.

Helpsy recommends placing the items along the public right of way if possible (for example, near the mailbox). The items can be put in any bag or box. The only requirement is that the items be dry (although clean and odorless is also preferred).

Helpsy also organizes community events. Discussion of having Helpsy at Household Hazardous Waste Day collection or the Scouts' yard sale.

Helpsy will assist with social media and marketing of the program.

Discussion of starting the program running as soon as possible. Discussion of handing out materials at the school meeting, assuming the contract is signed by the necessary date.

Further discussion about other programs offered by Waste Zero, such as programs for hard plastic recyclables and composting.

5. Household Hazardous Waste Day 2022:

Sherri Cheney has revised last year's contract and provided it to David Stack. This has now been sent to NRRRA.

Mark Davis volunteered to contact the electronics vendor for HHWD.

6. Composting Discussion with Jessica Dunbar

Jessica Dunbar is overseeing the Energy Committee. Jessica recommended looking into a community composting program, and encouraging people to compost on their own. She suggested a program in which students or other volunteers assist people with setting up compost piles at their house. She also discussed local companies such as Renewal Garden and Compost that offer a local service to pick up compost.

The Committee discussed continuing a review of community composting as a potential program.

7. Next Meeting

Next meeting is April 5, 2022 at 7:30 p.m. (IN PERSON).

Meeting adjourned 9:04 p.m.