



CITY OF DOVER

SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE - MINUTES

Meeting Type: Regular Meeting
Meeting Location: 271 Mast Road, Dover, NH
Meeting Date: **Thursday, March 9, 2023**
Meeting Time: **6:00 pm**

Members Present: Chairman Gary Gilmore, Lynn Peterson, Kate Surman

Member Excused Absent: Doug Kemp, Vice Chairman Dave Dinzeo, Council Liaison, Michelle Muffet-Lipinski

Alternate Members Present: Deb Clough, Tim Casey

Alternate Members Unexcused Absent: Chris Sleys

Staff Present: Mike Moore, Solid Waste Coordinator, Nancy Usbelger, Recording Secretary

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm.

2. Citizens Forum (5 min. max.)

3. Approval of Minutes from February 9, 2023

Motion: Tim made a motion to approve the minutes Clough, seconded.

Vote: U/a

4. Monthly Update – Ordinance Review

Moore stated he gave the changes to John Storer the Community Services Director to review with the City Attorney. He feels some of the changes will and can be changed at any time and some will have to wait till the feasibility study takes place.

5. Recycling Center – N/A

Moore stated there have been some issues with the scale at the recycling center. The platforms that the load cells are on are made of steel and they are rusting, which is throwing the scale off. We haven't made any repairs till 2001. He has chosen to do the repairs. It will cost \$15,000. It should be about another 20 years or so before we will need to do it again.

6. Curbside Collection – N/A

7. New Business

A. Social Media – “What’s Recyclable” – Deb Clough

Clough stated that recyclesmartma.org has sent out through social media about infra-red lights at the sorting facilities for recycling can't read dark black, blue or gray plastic so therefore they are not recyclable. We were able to add that info to the city website. The city website and the talking trash brochure don't have the same information. She stated that she feels crushing cans and crushing plastic is a concern for her. If residents can do this it would save room in their bins, the recycling trailer as well as not blow out of residents' bins so easily. and trailer.



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Moore stated that caps on are fine and crushing cans are fine. Waste Management uses the Mass recycling website because that is where their processing facility is located in Massachusetts. That is why we go by their rules. Also, the black or blue containers are pulled out from recycling and go in trash any way.

Peterson suggested that she feels it should be up to the manufacturer of the restaurant take out containers. The restaurants are looking at a way to return the to go boxes to recycle them and reuse.

B. Soft Plastics Bin – Deb Clough

Clough talked about having a soft plastic recycle bin at our recycling center and the collection bins could be in schools etc. Someone would have to bring them to a place like Hannaford etc. then they get compacted and sold to Trex. There are bins 3ft tall plastic like material but can't get rained or snowed on. We would need to look for volunteers to bring bags to the grocery stores.

Peterson needs to do a little more research to be on board but the ultimate goal is to cut back on plastic in general.

Moore stated he did some research as well and the collection is for a six-month period. You would have to collect 40,000 bags in 6 months to receive a bench. That translates to 7,000 bags per month or 530 bags for every day we are open at the center. 75 bags weigh only 1 pound, so it would take a lot of bags to get 500 lbs. They would need to be rinsed, clean, dried, folded and delivered to retailer and bins are not weather proof. He said he could put a sign stating plastic bags can be recycled at local grocery stores.

C. Solid Waste and Recycling City Website Review – Mike Moore

Moore stated there was a freon price of \$10.00 on the website as well as orange bulky tags instead of green that needed to be changed. He stated he was going to get on a schedule every quarter to review any issues on the website that might need to change or be updated.

Clough stated no larger than 5 gallons plastic bottles and jugs and another place it says 1 gallon which is stated on website.

8. Old Business – N/A

Peterson handed out global plastic pandemic info. Maybe the committee could look it over and then talk about it at the next meeting.

9. Set Future Meeting Date

April 13, 2023

10. Adjournment

Motion: Casey made the motion to adjourn at 6:50 pm, Surman seconded.

Vote: U/a