

Eastport Recycling Committee – February 13, 2023

Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm by co-chairs Lora Whelan and Samra Kuseybi

Members present:

Lora Whelan, co-chair
Samra Kuseybi, co-chair
Jeanne Peacock, council liaison
Pat Christopher
Will Lopez, secretary
Chip Hammond
Becca Hammond
Beth Clifford

Appointments:

Motion to appoint Lora Whelan and Samra Kuseybi as co-chairs for one year made by Beth Clifford, Chip Hammond second. Unanimous.

Motion to appoint Will Lopez as secretary for one year made by Pat Christopher, Beth Clifford second. Unanimous.

Meeting Business:

Council liaison Jeanne Peacock discussed her conversation with Port Authority Director Chris Gardner about the use of port authority buildings as a possible site for recycling collection. According to Mr. Gardner potential warehouse sites have been leased and are not available for that or other reasons.

Samra and Lora met with City Manager Kate Devonshire to talk about sites and operations. Public Works Director Howie Johnson dropped in and suggested the potential use of the public works site on the corner of Drummond Rd and Route 190, either where the old recycling shed is located or towards the rear of the lot. The committee agreed that if an existing building couldn't be found, then this site was worth exploring.

Next steps for location of recycling building at the public works site includes: grant research, site walkthrough to understand set backs etc... and space needed.

Available grants and deadlines, Chip and Becca Hammond to research and follow. Maine DEP Waste Diversion Grant discussed, deadline March. Grant writing requirements and writers.

Lora reported that the city manager said that there is \$7,000 remaining in city recycling account. The city manager is reviewing city tonnage report to compare output with recycling to without recycling.

Potential dates to visit former public works lot with city assessor, 2/23, potential mid- March visits to Lubec Recycling facility to assess recycling procedure and site.

Eastport Recycling baler is still located at former recycling center along with e-waste material. Howie Johnson told Lora and Samra that he will move the baler but needs to wait until the ground hardens up. The baler is heavy.

The city manager spoke with Samra and Lora about holding an e-waste/recycling event for June. She will set it up with hauler, and the committee will man the operation helping the public unload and place e-waste in containers. Need to confirm with manager.

Recommendation to develop program to provide returnables recycling bins at Eastport events and festivals. A grant would need to be found to pay for bins.

Possible recycling program order of operations, Lubec model recommended, dumpster model of collection.

Pat Christopher will create a list of items that can be recycled at local/regional businesses, such as paint, batteries and more. The list will be posted on the city's website, and outreach to neighboring communities to see if they would like to include it on their municipal websites.

Other Business:

Haulers

Zoom capabilities -- Chip Hammond will take charge if the committee has a meeting that warrants using the technology.

Tribal and surrounding communities involvement

Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm by Lora Whelan.

Minutes submitted by: Will Lopez