

**IWMAC Meeting Minutes – Final
Durham Town Hall
October 2, 2024, 8am**

In attendance: Julie Kelley, Susan Richman, Naomi Kornhauser, Paul Rasmussen, Nell Neal, James Bubar, and Will Byington.

Nell announced that she will need to leave at 9:15 today and at future meetings. Julie will lead meetings if they extend beyond that time.

Agenda approved. **Minutes** approved with two spelling corrections.

Treasurer report. Mike reported that we have approximately \$2000 remaining in budget.

Town Council update. James reported that a block party is planned for Saturday October 5 on Jenkins Court.

Planning Board update. Paul reported that PB is working on zoning changes for housing and on definitions. Town zoning for childcare was corrected to match state rules.

DPW update. No report – Sam and Rich both absent.

Compost Challenge update by Will and Julie.

- Challenge begins this Saturday, Oct. 5. Twelve households have registered.
- Will and/or Julie will send weekly reminders and tips to participants.
- Will and/or Julie will be at Transfer Station some Saturdays to get feedback from composters.
- Will and/or Julie will make presentation on December 2 to Town Council about challenge.
- Tom and other Transfer Station attendants can help participants when they come to weigh compost. James suggested that Swap Shop members be informed about challenge so that they can also help.
- Will is creating a weekly survey to track data/progress.

More on Composting. Mike reported on Medford pilot program and grant possibilities.

- Medford report compared methods of composting: do-it-yourself, drop-off at transfer station, and subscription service. Mike will share their summary.
- Very few composting companies currently exist in NH. Advocacy needed at state level. Massachusetts gives much more support.
- Grant opportunities are for larger projects than Durham could handle alone, but perhaps we could partner with other communities.
- DES allows 5 cubic yards as community composting without requiring a state permit. Would local farms be interested?
- Mr. Fox would not consider satellite pickup stations because of contamination.

Transfer Station sign on Route 108. Susan will ask Rich how to move forward on this.

Composting leaflets.

- We agreed on revision to the red heading on page 1 and to a few grammatical corrections.
- Naomi will order 3,000 from UNH printing at a cost of approximately \$750 (exact cost to come). 2600 will be sent with property tax bills in November.
- We will revisit idea of recycling leaflet to be mailed with June tax bills.

Municipal funding of single use plastics.

- Nell is arranging meeting with fire chief.
- Mike learned that police station has cooler and personal bottles for daily use, single-use bottles for training sessions.
- Julie learned that Parks & Rec only uses single-use bottles for 1 annual road race.
- Mike suggested possible use of “One Step” to sanitize large water containers.
- Hydration cost: \$200-\$500 for simple versions, \$2000-\$4000 for more sophisticated versions. Julie will investigate whether a simple version would work for the P&R race.
- Do we want to ask Town Council to adopt a resolution or informally ask for cooperation from committees? To be discussed further.

Plastic bag recycling - to be discussed at 10/16 meeting with Hannaford.

- Are bags really being recycled?
- Can they add clear signage to store recycling bin? Naomi showed Plastic Bag Recycling poster created last year. She will create simpler version to show at meeting.

We adjourned with plan to meet next on October 16.

Minutes submitted by Naomi