

SHERBORN RECYCLING COMMITTEE MEETING

Meeting agenda for the 387th Meeting of the Committee

Thursday, November 16, 2023, 6:30pm, Virtual

meet.google.com/ebu-gjpr-sen

1. Meeting call to order, introductions as needed. Volunteer for minutes.
2. Establishment of quorum, approval of agenda for the current meeting and Minutes of October 12, 2023 meeting
3. Special thanks to:
 - David for drafting the October 2023 meeting minutes
 - Emily for work on the committee page on the remodeled Sherbornma.org website
 - Diane for tracking down tonnage reports from vendors and preparing the monthly spreadsheets/graphs
 - Andrea for handling new resident mailings, extra help with Swap Shop, help with Pilgrim church fair materials
 - Anne for Household Hazardous Waste Day article, banner preparation, and HHW day prep and help
 - HHW Day Committee volunteers – Anne, Diane, David, Emily!
 - DPW crews for HHW prep and continued help at the Transfer Station (scrap metal compaction, etc.)
 - Swap Shop volunteers Trish, Julia, Jim, Andrea

Action Items:

4. Budget Items:

- a. 3-gal. kitchen compost bags - Qty 4200 -\$426.65 (latest quote) from DEP RDP Grant account – will need before Jan mtg.
 - b. Call-2-Recycle rechargeable battery boxes will no longer be free starting 2024 – will need to purchase them or change recycling procedure for Ni-MH, NI-Cad, Li-ion batteries and cell phones.
5. FY 2025 budget – Advisory again recommends level-funding of current budget (\$3,230)
 6. DPW Recycling Budget – C. Tyler invited to 12/14 discussion in Admin office – expect to try to level fund, but costs are variable and likely to rise
 7. Transfer Station Fee Increase Proposal based on recycling costs: Break-even vs. Resident value; cost as deterrence of illicit dumping; comparison with other communities
 8. Extended Producer Responsibility letter sign-on (Mass Recycle request)

Information/Discussion/Update Items:

9. “Green Table” at Oct. 14 (Sat.) community fair, Pilgrim Church – Donna Turner was pleased with SRC contributions. Andrea Brennan retrieved extras.
10. Town Web Page update – Emily has hit the ground running with new CivicPlus format. We now have editing access and expect to make much needed updates. Emily may suggestions for discussion.
11. Select Board member Marian Neutra requested a presentation sometime soon regarding duties and challenges of the Recycling Committee; Charlie to develop Power Point for presentation soon – will include information regarding current volunteer work details and recommendations regarding future plans sand risks with regard to volunteer variability.
12. Household Hazardous Waste Day/Paper Shredding 2023 – Review of November event and Trident Environmental Group and Highland Shredding performance. Discussion regarding planning for 2024 event.
13. Planet Aid rep stopped by town Hall and TS -asking to place a clothing container at Transfer Station near Bay State’s – committee discussion regarding the extra container (they pay \$.07/lb for textiles versus Bay State at \$.05/lb), but they don’t accept tattered items, stuffed toys, “Threadbare items,” etc.
14. Membership – We are currently at six voting members. Need to strategize committee continuity.
15. Food Waste - Black Earth – now at \$15.00 per container (price increase as of August), pickups reliable and accurate; time to renew contract (“expired” 6/30/23). Need to update contract, but expect annual increases. Participation is steady.
16. **Swap Shop** – Has been very busy this year – inventory is high – will need to clear this month – closing 10/29. Discussion and strategy for next season to continue at future meetings. Transfer Station cell phone is (508) 314-2300.
17. Tires: Central Mass Mosquito Control will pick up a majority of our tires for recycle at no extra cost to town.
18. RDP - DEP Recycling Dividend Program application for a 2023 grant based on updated criteria was submitted on June 12 - We have been formally notified that we’ll receive a \$3850 grant based on the 11 “points” for which we applied. We missed on several Public Outreach “hoops” to jump through for an extra \$350.
19. Transfer Station Sign – progress on electronic phone-accessible fee sheet? We may need to print some “hard” signs
20. Climate Resilience Work Group – Any updates? – Emily
21. Public Outreach -Time for an updated Recycling guide (refrigerator) card – 2024
22. Scrap metal (priced as light iron) market, still returning a steady \$145/GT.
23. **Next meeting – December 14? Committee to discuss need and practicality of a December meeting.**
24. **Adjourn**

CALENDAR: 2nd or 3rd Thursday of month at 6:30 PM (possibly by e-meeting until March 31, 2025) – Tentative meeting dates in 2023: Dec 14? - 2024 tentatives: Jan 18, Feb 15, Mar 21, Apr 18, May 16, Jun 13, Jul 18, Aug off, Sept 19, Oct 17, Nov 21, Dec 12– subject to change depending on meeting need, board conflicts, and other circumstance