



TOWN OF MOUNT DESERT SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE SUMMARY

Thursday, November 21, 2019

TOWN MEETING HALL

Northeast Harbor

Members Present:

Phil Lichtenstein, Chair

Dennis Shubert

Sydney Roberts Rockefeller

Jesse Hartson

John McCauley

Kathy Miller

Guests:

Tony Smith, Director Public Works

Meeting convened at 1600

- 1) The Chair thanked the Public Works Director for attending the meeting and informing the committee. Mr. Smith outlined his present plan for raising the public's awareness of the change to "One bin, all in" on January 1, 2020. The plan includes: Public meeting at the Northeast Harbor Library on 12/12/2019, 5 pm; presentation to the elementary school TBD; Posters and signs at the present recycling center to announce the change and explain how "One bin, all in" will take the town from its present recycling percentage of 12-13% to nearly complete. Mr. Smith explained that cardboard will be picked up curbside and placed in the packer truck. At Coastal Resources of Maine, the cardboard will either be pulped or baled depending on its condition. (See Appendix A)
- 2) The Chair and Mr. Smith updated the committee on the status of the LED streetlights. Three lights were not replaced with LEDs given the lights were thought to be private. They will be replaced. Also, 6 LED lights have failed. The understanding is that this is not an uncommon issue and either

- the fuse of the fixture may fail early but not typically late. The failed lights will be either get a new fuse or rebuild by the manufacturer.
- 3) The group discussed internal fixtures and how to best determine that all town spaces have appropriate lighting levels from LED fixtures. Public Works will coordinate a survey and involve space users in the final decisions. The actual replacement will likely be delayed until the next Efficiency Maine rebate program is in place.
 - 4) The group then discussed the request from the most recent BOS meeting to discuss and make recommendations for outdoor lighting on town owned and town used properties. The issue was raised when a lighting engineer determined that recent new and replacement lights at the NE marina and SH dock might be non-compliant with LUZO. Also, the engineer suggested that the LUZO lighting ordinance was outdated given its adoption in 2007 and major changes in lighting technology. The SH dock lights have since been reoriented in compliance with Dark Skies full cut off preference. Those members who have viewed the change thought the improvement in wayward light was dramatic. Whether or not illumination on the docks is adequate for safety is unknown. The Chair will work with the town Ordinance Review Committee to coordinate changes in the applicable section of LUZO with professional input.
 - 5) The group considered where additional solar panels might be erected. Candidate locations include: at Otter Creek sanitary pump station, elementary school roof, on canopies in town parking areas and other locations TBD.
 - 6) Mr. Smith announced that the Town will be installing conduits in the enlarged parking lot at the intersection of Summit and Main. Provision will be made for 4 EV charges with two to be installed in the first phase.
 - 7) In the last legislative session, a resolution was adopted to ask the Environmental Protection Agency to proposed legislation to support manufacturer and distributor accountability for packing waste. The group supported asking the BOS to review other town support letters and consider one of our own. (See Appendix B)

THE NEXT MEETING: December 19, 4pm Town Meeting Room

Appendix A

A key goal of CRM is to achieve 80% diversion from the waste stream, meaning that 20% or less what they receive will end up being landfilled.

Clean Corrugated Cardboard	Baled and sold for recycling
#1 and #2 plastic	Baled and sold for recycling
Caps on or Caps off?	Leave caps on bottles and food containers. Once they are at a mill, the material will be shredded and sorted as to type of plastic.
#3 to #7 plastic, including bio-plastic (corn-based plastic)	Depending on the market: Either baled and sold for recycling, or Baled and delivered to a company that is working on turning #3 to #7's into a fuel product
Plastic bags and film	Separated out and goes to a process that turns them into briquettes that will be sold as an industrial fuel.
Tin cans and aluminum	Baled and sold for recycling
Glass	Glass is separated, crushed, and used as landfill cover or as an aggregate for construction projects.
Scrap metal	Is separated from the trash and sold
Paper, paperboard, corrugated cardboard that has food residue	Goes to CRM's pulper, then processed and turned into a cellulose product that can be sold and recycled into new cardboard/paper products. When there is a market, clean paper/paperboard can be baled and recycled.
Organic Waste	Goes first to the pulper, then to the anerobic digester where it produces bio-gas used to power the Coastal Resources plant, and excess can be sold to Bangor Gas.

Boat Wrap	CRM can accept boat wrap or sheet plastic if it is cut into pieces less than 3 feet for all dimensions. CRM is planning a boat wrap pilot project for next spring.
-----------	--

Clothing and Shoes	<p>CRM will accept clothing and shoes, but they do not have a process for them. They would become residual material that is landfilled. CRM recommends that customers take used clothing to a Goodwill or re-sale shop. Clothing for Goodwill should be clean and dry, not contaminated with paint and chemicals, but do not need to be in good condition. Torn is OK (they make rags and etc.) Also they will accept just one shoe – they have a matching program!</p> <p>CRM is looking forward to Apparel Impact expanding into Eastern Maine. This business will provide bins for discarded clothing and accessories and will pick up on an every two-week schedule.</p>
Batteries	?? Shelby says no batteries in the trash. Maine DEP site says there is a collection program for rechargeable batteries, but single-use batteries in limited quantities can go in the trash.
Hot cups (cardboard product with plastic lining)	Goes to pulper, then directed to cellulose stream or anerobic digester.

Appendix B



TOWN OF KENNEBUNKPORT, MAINE

- INCORPORATED 1653 -

MAINE'S FINEST RESORT

Whereas, Maine's communities are struggling to maintain, expand, and in some cases are eliminating, recycling programs due to rising costs and difficult-to-manage materials; and

Whereas, product packaging, which includes plastic, metal, glass, and cardboard, constitutes approximately 30-40% of the materials managed by weight in Maine's municipal waste management programs; and

Whereas, Maine taxpayers currently unfairly bear 100% of the cost and pay an estimated \$16 million to \$17 million each year to finance the management of this material through fragmented and increasingly expensive disposal or recycling options; and

Whereas, producers of product packaging have little incentive to minimize wasteful packaging or increase access to recycling; and there is no organized coordination between the producers of packaging and municipalities that are responsible for disposing of or recycling the packaging materials; and

Whereas, producers of product packaging have taken some or all responsibility for the management of post-consumer packaging in other parts of the world, including all European Union member states and five provinces in Canada, and, as a result, have greatly increased recycling rates, expanded infrastructure investment, created jobs, and reduced taxpayer costs;

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved,

We, the Town of Kennebunkport, Maine, support an Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) for Packaging law as endorsed by the Legislature in 2019 through the passage of the Resolve, To Support Municipal Recycling Programs (LD 1431). We believe that this policy will work to make recycling in Maine;

More effective: Producers of packaging materials would have a direct economic incentive to produce less-wasteful packaging that can easily and profitably be managed by municipal recycling programs. Having shared responsibility between those who create the waste and those who manage the waste would foster recycling system improvements and enable greater participation in recycling across Maine;

More sustainable: An EPR law for packaging is an Insurance policy for Maine municipalities when global recycling markets are unfavorable. The current approach to recycling is not resilient to fluctuations in the global recycling market. When commodity

Adoption of a resolution in support of developing an “Extended Producer Responsibility for Packaging” law

prices fall unexpectedly, towns and cities may be forced stop or restrict their programs; and

More equitable: Maine's cities, towns, and taxpayers are currently footing the bill for a problem they didn't create. With recycling reform, taxpayers will no longer pay for the cost of recycling since the net costs of recycling would be reimbursed—and the packaging manufacturers that produce less wasteful, more recyclable packaging would pay less than those who do not. This is a much more equitable way to distribute costs.

Resolved:

Selectmen: