



TOWN OF PEMBROKE RECYCLING and SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

Thursday, September 21, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.
Pembroke Public Library
Trustees Room

Minutes:

Members in attendance: Meghan Watts (chair), Kairyn Rainer (clerk), Stephen Curley (remote), Katherine Kopper, Evan Payne (interested in membership) also in attendance.

Ms. Watts called this meeting to order at approximately 7:00pm. She proceeded to the first agenda item: approval of August and June meeting minutes. Ms. Rainer responded that she has not been able to complete the minutes and apologized for falling behind. Ms. Watts offered help with minutes and Ms. Rainer reported that she would try recording meetings moving forward in order to help her. This agenda item will be moved to our October meeting.

Committee membership status: Ms. Watts informed the committee that Mr. Marshall's application had been accepted by the Select Board and that he was officially a member of the committee. Ms. Watts explained that Mr. Payne had submitted an application for membership and asked Mr. Payne to step out of the room for us to discuss his application for membership, which he did. The committee members present reviewed and discussed his application, and, having no objections a motion was moved, seconded, and unanimously carried to accept his application for submission to the Select Board for approval. Mr. Payne was invited to rejoin the meeting, and it was explained to him that his application was accepted by the committee for submission to the Select Board and that they would vote on its approval at their next meeting.

Debriefing the table at Pembroke Celebrates: Ms. Watts and Ms. Kopper explained that the compost sorting game seemed to engage both children and adults and that they answered several questions about composting and recycling in the town. Ms. Kopper stated that someone had asked about what can be recycled in curbside recycling since they had moved from a town with a dump and did not know if the system was the same. We discussed the idea of distributing information on recycling to new town residents in the future. Ms. Watts recommended we not continue to have a recycling toter at these events because they tend to be mistaken for trash cans to be used for event garbage. We then proceeded to discuss applying for a table at the next town event, the town tree lighting ceremony. We discussed potential areas of focus including energy efficiency tips for heating and electricity use, holiday waste, etc. Ms. Rainer will forward an application to Ms. Watts.

Terracycle initiative: The committee discussed the idea of holding a toy recycling drive for electronic toys, which would be held at the recycling center within a few weeks after the holidays end. Ms. Watts agreed to email the Assistant Town Manager to begin coordinating this, including setting up a town Terracycle account.

Facebook posts: Ms. Rainer stated there were no updates on this area. Having no further business to discuss, Ms. Watts asked for a motion to adjourn, which was moved, seconded, and unanimously carried. Ms. Watts adjourned the meeting at approximately 8:00pm.