

MAB Meeting Minutes  
April 17, 2014  
DPW Meeting Room  
Northampton, MA

Approved as corrected at the June 19, 2014 meeting.

Present: Jan Ameen, Tracy DeMaio, Amy Donovan, Justine Fallon, Janine Greaves, Arlene Miller, Barry Searle, and Eric Weiss.

Agenda:

Eric called the meeting to order at 10:10AM

- A. Meeting Minutes: The minutes from the March 20, 2014 meeting were approved (Barry/Janine) as corrected.
- B. Treasurer's Report: Jan handed out a treasurer's report. She made a few comments related to the report and they included:
  - 1. Springfield actually "over paid" their public education fee with the last payment. The MRF will carry over the extra dollars and apply them to the next payment.
  - 2. There was a discussion about purchasing additional recycling and bottle and can decals. A motion was made (Jan/Tracy) to authorize Arlene to purchase no more than 500 decals from MassRecycle. The motion passed.
  - 3. There was a brief discussion about accounting practices as they related to the Hampshire Council of Governments.
- C. MRF Operations: Justine reported.
  - 1. As a follow up to our last meeting and a request from Michael about informing Waste Management about our desire for them to consider expanding the number of materials collected, the MAB reviewed a draft letter addressing that issue. A final version was agreed upon and Eric volunteered to send it to Waste Management.
  - 2. Justine reported that there have not been any big changes at the MRF since last month. She reviewed the tonnage for March (2,100T of dual stream and 2,000T of single stream). Revenue share for March was at \$24.03 with zero revenue for the single stream materials. The OCC market has increased.
  - 3. Justine reported that an engineer reviewed the structure of the MRF building and made suggestion for a few improvements. This is an operational issue and it will be paid for by Waste Management.
  - 4. There was a brief discussion about a proposed letter to be sent to all MRF towns (and other towns as well) that provided information and a timeline about the 2015 MRF contract renewal, It was agreed that the letter should be sent before school gets out in June. Arlene volunteered to work on a draft and have it ready for review by the end of April.
- D. Blue Box News: Justine and Arlene reported that it was their intent to send out the next newsletter in May or June. There was a discussion about possible articles. The last newsletter (electronic only) was sent in January 2014. Justine reported that 188 received the letter and 81 opened it. Tracy suggested that the newsletter committee consider using a different "subject line" in order to peak interest in readers to open it. A few suggestions for articles included information on the new MRF contract, the "What-to-do-With" article from the RRR and a community special interest story.
- E. RRR Publication: There was a general discussion about the 2 Earth Day RRR inserts. All were very pleased with the publications. In Agawam it was reported by Tracy that many stores that she checked had not included the insert in the store only copy. Arlene agreed to report that to the Republican.
- F. MAB Education Committee: Justine reported that the committee has reviewed the design work and has completed editing on the various pieces of education material they are preparing. Tracy passed out a draft "point program" that is being considered as a template for the distribution of the materials. Justine reported that the time-table for the rollout might be late May or September. Justine and Nancy Turkle are still working on the recycling piece for haulers.
- G. Other:
  - 1. Arlene reminded all about the MassDEP grant opportunity.
  - 2. Arlene also asked if there was interest in the milk carton containers being given to western MA by the Carton Council. Veronique has volunteered to store the 20 containers in South Hadley.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15AM. **Our next meeting is scheduled for June 19, 2014.**

Notes taken by Arlene C. Miller