

Present: Veronique Blanchard, Jamie Cahillane, Kathleen Casey (HRMC), Amy Donovan, Juliette Haas, Arlene Miller, Michael Pattavina, Barry Searle, and Greg Superneau.

Guest: Mike Moores, Springfield MRF Operations Manager

Agenda:

Greg called the meeting to order at 10:00AM

- A. Meeting Minutes: The minutes from the September 18, 2014 meeting were approved (Mike/Juliette) as corrected.
- B. Public Comments: There were no public comments offered.
- C. MRF Operations: Mike Moores reported.
 1. Mike reported that operations are going well. He said that the revenue share for the past month was \$24.98.
 2. Mike spoke about markets. He said that the milk jugs market has been very good at \$1100/ton. The MRF is working hard to separate them cleanly so the bales are good for market. They are also working hard to segregate out the PET. The MRF is recycling about 60 T/month of these plastics.
 3. Michael Pattavina told the Board that he has been helping with MRF tours for the 4th grade students from West Springfield and that all the employees at the facility were helpful and very friendly.
 4. There was a discussion about the soon to begin bulky rigid plastic collections. The revised flyer was reviewed and edited. All agreed that November 15, 2014 –America Recycles Day--would be a good start date for this new program. Mike said that the rigids would be tracked separately for towns. They would have their own reporting line. That way towns can track the amount of this material they recycle. Mike also emphasized that towns need to call and make an appointment for delivery. They must call in advance.
 5. MRF Tours: There was a discussion about MRF tours. It was asked if Justine's job had been posted. Arlene responded that she did not know but would ask Steve Ellis. There was a general discussion about the value of the tours. Tracy had previously informed MAB members that she knew a retired science teacher who would make a great tour guide. A motion was made (Veronique/Barry) to budget \$600 from the MAB's outreach and education budget, to fund Nancy Bobskill at \$20/hour for managing and running MRF tours on a contract/temporary basis. The motion passed.
- D. Treasurer's Report: Amy distributed the most recent treasurer's report from Jan, who was absent from the meeting. Amy mentioned that the bills/invoices from the public education project were beginning to come in for payment. The total amount spent on that project will be about \$25,000, which is considerably less than the amount that was approved for the project.
- E. 25th Anniversary Celebration: Arlene and Juliette presented an update to the Board about the event. Juliette brought a "centerpiece" for a show and tell. All were very please with the piece. They reported that all is going well, that 65 folks are registered to attend and that they are excited about the event.
- F. MAB Outreach Committee: Amy represented the committee and presented an update. The materials have all been ordered and are beginning to arrive. It is anticipated that materials will be available for distribution around the time of America Recycles Day. Amy added that we might need to pay Nancy Turkel a bit more for extra work she did on the project. Every one thanked the committee for all of their hard work on this project. Amy volunteered to do a display of this project at the 25th anniversary celebration.
- G. MAB Web discussion: There was a general discussion about the web page. All agreed it was in need of a few updates. The person we have been using to manage the page has not been responding to requests to make changes. Kathleen and Amy agreed to find out more details about the current web master and look for a new one if needed,
- H. Newsletter update: Arlene reported that all the articles have been submitted for the newsletter. However—the newsletter committee felt we needed to update the newsletter package. Tracy requested an additional \$5/month to allow us to upgrade the newsletter package. A motion was made (Mike/Jamie) to approve the expenditure of an additional \$5/month for newsletter package.
- I. Other: Arlene reminded all about the upcoming MRC meeting on October 23rd in Springfield. Juliette shared that the Berkshire Botanical Garden recently held a "zero waste" event.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:25.

Our next meeting is scheduled for December 18, 2014 in Northampton.

Notes taken by Arlene C. Miller

