

Present: Jan Ameen, Veronique Blanchard, Jamie Cahillane, Kathleen Casey, Tracy DeMaio, Amy Donovan, Juliette Haas, Arlene Miller, Michael Pattavina, Greg Superneau and Susan Waite.

Guest: Mike Moores (MRF Supervisor)

Agenda:

Greg Superneau, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 10:00AM

- A. Meeting Minutes: The minutes from the February 19, 2015 meeting were approved (Mike/Veronique) as corrected.
- B. Public Comments: There were no public comments offered.
- C. Treasurer's Report: Jan passed out a Treasurer's report for review, pointed out that very little has changed since the last report and discussed a few hi-lites which included:
 1. The new web master has been paid. We should all check our town's contact information on the map section of the site and send any corrections to Amy.
 2. There is going to be a significant amount of money for carry over into FY 2016. The MAB agreed to spend time at future meetings discussing projects for that year and beginning to make a financial plan associated with those projects.
 3. Everything else is OK with our budget.
- D. MRF Operations: Mike Moores presented.
 1. Mike began his comments by reporting that there is nothing new on the Newark group discussion regarding finding a new outlet for our paper. He will keep us posted as things progress.
 2. Operations wise, he reported, all is OK. Management has given the OK to make some capital improvements totaling about \$100,000. This would include updating some equipment and improving some conveyor belts.
 3. Markets are currently at "the bottom of the barrel" and revenue, as a result, is only at \$18.67/T. He is looking forward to this trend beginning to shift upward. #6 News is currently at \$60.65.
 4. There was a question about the bulky rigid collections since that door was opened at the MRF in November 2014. Mike said that there has been no problem both operationally or with contamination from these collections.
 5. There was a general discussion about the MRF tours. All acknowledged the great job that Nancy Bobskill is doing as the part-time tour guide. A motion was made (Jan/Juliette) to authorize Greg to draft a letter to Waste Management and DEP expressing our willingness to continue to work with the MRF operator on any issues related to safety during MRF tours. The motion passed.
- E. RRR: These projects are almost complete. The Republican guide will be published on April 22 and the Gazette on the 21st. It was clarified that the money to pay for the two ads in these inserts would come from our Education and Outreach line item.
- F. Education and Outreach committee report: Veronique has begun work on the hauler outreach project. Others on the committee are tied up with the RRR. Veronique reported that she would have the final hauler list with contacts completed shortly.
- G. Project ideas: There was a general discussion about possible uses for the money remaining from the public education project (about \$14,500). Susan brought up the idea to do some radio ads, maybe with a jungle. The musical members of the MAB group agreed to assist with that effort. Susan will do some research on costs and report back at the next meeting. Other ideas include focusing on schools, plastic bags, re-usable bags and the Green Team etc.
- H. Newsletter update: There was a general discussion about the newsletter. Mike congratulated Tracy and Veronique on the new format. A few article ideas were suggested including doing an article about the new Northampton re-use shop.
- I. Other:
 1. Arlene mentioned the upcoming western MA DEP grant workshop on April 29th in Springfield and encouraged all to attend.
 2. A few issue were brought up about bulky rigid collections. Veronique offered to send MAB members the South Hadley rigid plastics collection flyer and other info about her collections.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30.

Our next meeting is scheduled for April 16, 2015 at 10AM in Northampton.

Notes taken by Arlene C. Miller