

MAB Meeting Minutes
October 3, 2019
Hampshire Daily Gazette Conference Room
10:00am – 11:30am

Present: Tracy DeMaio, Kathleen Casey, Véronique Blanchard, Jan Ameen, Juliette Haas, Cristina Ferrera, Mary Stucklen, Amy Donovan, Mike Pattavina, Susan Waite.

The meeting was called to order at 10:03 am.

Public Comment Period No members of the public were present.

Review and approve previous meeting minutes Mike moved to accept the minutes as written and Jan seconded. Several corrections were made during the discussion and Mike moved again to accept the minutes as amended, Jan seconded and the vote was unanimous in favor with Susan abstaining.

Treasurer's Report Jan reported there was very little activity.

MAC Update

Véronique mentioned that we have not yet heard about the SMRP grant awards but should be hearing very soon about Round 1 (RDP and Small Scale awards).

Public Ed outreach Tracy had an inquiry from an official in Arlington wondering if we would be willing to share materials from our Reduce, Reuse, Recycle guides. It was mentioned that some articles are owned by the newspapers, and Tracy asked the MAB members for their position on sharing our articles. General agreement was that since we are quasi-public we should share our information. Mike moved that we share articles or whatever someone needs, Mary seconded and the vote was unanimous.

Veronique mentioned the possibility of creating a Berkshire County RRR; Juliette mentioned that Berkshire has at least three different outlets for trash and recycling and that not all Berkshire towns are MRF members. Tracy mentioned that Melissa Noe from Monterey was looking for trifolds to mail out. Juliette will reach out to her to see how many she needs and if she needs more than Egremont has, Veronique will get some from the MRF.

Tracy let us know that there is currently no update on the status of the new MRF contract. Jan asked if the board could make a motion that the December 19th deadline for municipalities to sign the new contract be renegotiated since we have no information yet and originally the decision was to come down in August and then we would have had from September through November to educate the communities. Susan wondered if we could get a list of ways municipalities are covering the costs. Veronique will develop this list. Amy will get us the presentation from MassRecycle. Mary suggested that if we get notification say November 1st, then the deadline could be two months later. Jan has a spreadsheet with all the tonnages for the towns to which we can then add the processing fee and revenue shares for each town. Jan agrees with Mary and would like to recommend to MassDEP that we have a minimum of 60 days to prepare the towns and have them sign the agreement. Jan mentioned that she has her towns set up a recycling revolving fund into which other revenue such as from scrap metal can be put into a fund which then can be used to help pay for increased recycling processing costs. Susan asked if the MAB can send out a notice to our municipalities that there has been a delay and we'll notify you as soon as we have information. Tracy said the communities who are concerned have already called either she or Steve.

A question was raised to ask Mike Moores about current outlets for the MRF glass now that Chicopee landfill is closed – are we sending our glass to NJ now? Tracy will ask Mike for a market update via email.

Tracy asked about using the MRF website for posting information about the new MRF contract once it becomes available. Mike mentioned we could also use the Facebook posts which Jessica Wosniak produces for the MAB to help promote the new contract information. Jan said we could create a new webpage titled 'for municipal officials', Veronique can also add information in upcoming Western Mass Recycling newsletters. It was mentioned that all MAB representatives should call

each of their municipalities to let them know when the information is posted on the website. Amy will talk to Lou about creating a banner and background place holder, which will include a letter from Tracy, and the new contract in pdf form, along with a timeline.

Mike moved to adjourn, Jan seconded and the meeting was adjourned at 11:20 AM.

Next meeting dates are 10/24 and 11/21 from 10-11:30 AM at the Daily Hampshire Gazette conference room.

Respectfully submitted,

Véronique Blanchard
Clerk