

MAB Meeting Minutes
April 13, 2023
Virtual Meeting via Zoom

MAB Members Present: Abbey Massaro, Jan Ameen, Amy Donovan, Steve Ellis (DEP), Arlene Miller, Laurie Simmons, Michael Pattavina, Susan Cooper, Susan Waite

Others present: Mike Moores (Waste Mgmt.), Steve Ellis (DEP), Ethan Tupelo

The meeting was called to order at 1:03 pm by Chair A. Miller. The following items were taken up.

1. Public Comment Period. None

2. Review and Approval of Draft Minutes. *L. Simmons made, and A. Donovan seconded, a motion to accept the 2/16/23 minutes with the following correction: #5 change "U Tube" to "You Tube." The motion passed, with S. Waite abstaining as she was not present at the meeting.*

3. MRF Update and Tours. Mike Moores reported that everything is running smoothly. The gable top containers are finally being shipped to a company that makes roofing material. WMRA is paying to recycle these materials. Mixed paper is still being shipped instead of sorting it into different grades.

S. Ellis reported on tours that he has conducted. There was discussion about group size and what limits are needed because of the space.

4. Treasurer's Report. J. Ameen noted the only expenses were for the website and outreach through Jess Wozniak. All grant materials have been paid for now.

5. MRF Contract Extension. A. Miller reported on the timing for discussions on the MRF contract extension. **J. Ameen moved to authorize the Chair to contact Chris Lucarelle at WMRA to begin conversations on the contract renewal process. L. Simmons seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.**

6. Video Committee Report: translations. A. Miller read an email from T. DeMaio about the status of translating the four videos into other languages. The price for the project is now \$5500 which will be paid for by Agawam and W. Springfield. A remaining step is to have Stan Fede create the postcard in each language. T. DeMaio is waiting for these to be translated.

7. MAB Public Education and outreach report: A. Miller reported that the sorting and distribution of grant materials went very smoothly. The Berkshire Community Service program picked up all of the materials for the Berkshire towns and distributed them. This was a great help to getting the materials out in a timely manner. The towns that picked up their materials at the MRF liked what they received.

8. RRR 2023: Final Update & Berkshire Eagle. A. Miller reported that the Republican version is in draft form. It has more pages than usual because there were more advertisers. A. Donovan reported that the RRR North version was done. It focuses on the five new videos. Textile recycling program information was added to the Community Recycling Info chart this year. S. Waite reported that she had not been able to reconnect with the person at the Berkshire Eagle despite trying multiple times.

9. MAB Vacancy in Hampshire County. A. Miller sent a letter about the two MAB vacancies to MAB reps and to the Towns of Greenfield and Shutesbury. She's looking for letters of interest from candidates by May 1st.

10. MAC Update. S. Waite provided her MAC Update. She noted that several MassDEP – Boston staff are leaving their positions in the coming weeks and months. The SMRP grant guidance is now available. There is a webinar on the program scheduled for May 10th.

10. Other Business. L. Simmons reported that she is looking for volunteers to help with the UMass New2U move in/move out program. The program is also currently crowdfunding.

11. Next meeting and adjournment.

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for May 11th at 9 am. A. Miller will survey members before finalizing the date. The meeting adjourned at 2:13 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Jan Ameen
Franklin County rep.

Documents used in the meeting:

- 4/11/23 MAB meeting packet, including 2/16/23 draft minutes
- MAB FY23 budget, dated 4/7/23