

MAB Meeting Minutes
September 18, 2024
Virtual Meeting via Zoom

MAB Members Present: Jan Ameen, Ruby Chang, Tracy DeMaio, Amy Donovan, Arlene Miller, Laurie Simmons, Mary Stucklen, Susan Waite

Others present: Mike Moores (Waste Mgmt.) and Bernie Fosu (Waste Management)

The meeting was called to order at 10:04 by Chair A. Miller. The following items were taken up.

1. Public Comment Period. None

2. Review and Approval of Previous Minutes. The minutes from June 17th were tabled. **J. Ameen made and T. DeMaio seconded, a motion to accept the minutes of August 27th as amended. The motion passed unanimously.**

3. MRF Update. M. Moores indicated that operations were running smoothly and material was dry because there has not been rain. Landscaping continues in front of the building. September OCC price was down \$5. Plastics pricing was mixed but relatively flat. The September AMV is almost the same as August's AMV.

4. Treasurer's Report. J. Ameen shared the budget vs actual document. She noted that Waste Management's annual payment of \$10,000 had been received. The outreach expense includes \$665 for legal counsel review of the contract amendment. There were no questions.

5. MRF Contract Extension. There was considerable discussion about the plan for announcing the contract extension and setting up Q&A sessions for community leaders. Waste Management agreed to host a contract extension informational event at the MRF, including tours, on Tuesday, October 22nd from 8:30-10:30. Arlene will send out a save-the-date email to all towns asap. Within two weeks, Arlene will send all communities the contract amendment document and an overview. For those unable to attend the MRF event there will be a virtual meeting for Q&A on Wednesday, October 30th at 9 am. Bernie will participate in both sessions.

6. MAB Vacancies. There are representative vacancies in Franklin and Hampshire Counties. Jan will reach out to the new Shutesbury recycling coordinator. Arlene will reach out to Abbey about switching towns and then inviting Liz Bone from E. Longmeadow to join the MAB.

7. Election of Officers. **J. Ameen nominated Laurie Simmons as Vice-Chair. R. Chang seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.** The MAB still needs a Clerk.

8. RRR Berkshires. M. Stucklen shared the efforts of a group of volunteers working to produce a 2nd RRR edition for the Berkshires. She is working with S. Waite on this project. The guide will include recycling education, especially with Pittsfield starting a new curbside recycling program. The guide will be published on November 16th for America Recycles Day. The group is looking for a print sponsor. The sponsor would pay for the cost of printing the RRR guide and would get a full-page ad. If a private print sponsor is not found, then the MAB will pay for printing costs. **S. Waite moved that if there is not a private print sponsor then the MAB would fund up to \$3000 of printing costs and receive a free ad. This would include overruns. J. Ameen seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

9. Future MAB meetings. This item did not require discussion and was skipped.

10. MAC Update. S. Waite shared the DEP is finalizing the RDP criteria and funding structure.

11. Other Business. J. Ameen shared that she and Arlene are working to identify new MRF towns for the new contract term. S. Waite asked MAB members to share three reasons that communities should sign the contract amendment.

12. Next meeting and adjournment. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 16th.

The meeting adjourned at 11:31.

Respectfully submitted,
Jan Ameen, Franklin County representative

Documents used in the meeting:

- MAB September budget vs. actual
- MAB Representative List