

Sandwich Energy Committee



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Meeting Minutes
Monday, June 22nd, 2015
7:00 pm

Human Services Building – Upper Level

Present: Sarah, Ann, Desiree, Kevin

Guests: Neil Holmgren (Interested in joining), Paul Tilton, DPW

1. Welcome
2. Guest Paul Tilton, DPW
 - a. The Town's Pay as you Throw system has been in place for 4 years now and solid waste is down by 50% and recycling is up almost 50%
 - b. Sandwich also participates in a Household Hazardous Waste program with Bourne, Falmouth and Mashpee
 - c. Currently the DPW is offering residents free kitchen compost bins to encourage residents to compost at home
 - i. Pest control issues? If composting properly pests shouldn't be an issue. Compost needs to be properly mixed and turned. Earthworms can also assist with the breakdown of materials.
 - d. Large food producers are now required by the DEP to compost
 - e. How can the Energy Committee help?
 - i. Schools are a big issue. The DPW has compactors that can be made available to the schools, however the electrical hookups would need to be taken care of. If these were in place the DPW could pick up the recycling.
 - ii. Composting Seminars or informational sessions. Sometimes residents have questions or need more information (rinsing recyclables, can Styrofoam be recycled? Etc)
 - iii. If people have trouble picking up materials like the compost bins we could volunteer some weekend time to make them available.
 - f. Has a recycling only sticker been considered?
 - i. Sarah has heard from residents and friends that they don't recycle and just take their trash to work. The town assumes residents are either using the transfer station where recycling is free (+ cost of sticker) or using private haulers who are required to offer recycling.
3. DEP Grant Update

- a. Many thanks to Paul for his help with completing these grants. The Town applied for \$30,000 for increasing recycling in schools, the Recycling Dividends program which is a point-based award system, Carpet and Mattress Recycling, and \$1500 for Small Incentives for educational materials. We should know in the Fall if any of these were awarded.
4. Neil Holmgren – Interested in joining
 - a. Neil is the owner of Solar Rising, a local solar installation company. He has a vested interest in renewable energy and would be interested in joining the committee. He will send Sarah a Letter of Interest and can be appointed at the next Board of Selectmen meeting.
5. Updates/Discussion
 - a. Potential Energy Committee scholarship for students who show interest/passion for renewable energy.
 - b. Ann will send information about a new movement she learned about called “100%.org”
 - c. Earth Day Event? It would be wise to start looking for speakers/reserving the date/site. Maybe show a film?
 - d. Grassroots Fund has small grants available, Sarah will look into it.

Our next scheduled meeting is for Monday, July 14th at 6:30.

Motion to adjourn 7:45pm.

Minutes prepared by Sarah Cote