

WASTE WATCHERS Minutes 11/25/2019

Present: Gabe, Anna, Hillary, Amy, Pat

COMPOST

- Prepping the site has been arduous for several reasons, including the need to wait for a place to move the fill (closing had to take place on the land purchase from Mills). The concrete pad is in place now, with good help from public works.
- Anna has located a good source of manure on the mainland, 15 minutes from the ferry terminal, and we have 2 dump body loads of fresh manure ready to go.
- We have 100 small and 100 large compost buckets to give out that are free. Gabe is about to order the stickers for the buckets (the round banana won – thank you, Josh, for doing the design) and when they arrive we will need to sticker the buckets. Other things to be done include finish the brochure and make signs for the transfer station.
- The drop off point will be on the right as you drive in to drop your bagged trash.
- It has been decided to do a roll out rather than a big launch. “Opening Day” is scheduled to be the 16th of December.
- Kenny has located an affordable scale that will sit on the fork lift forks. He will be able to weight the compost, as well as possibly demo and swap shop clean outs.
- For spring: remember the Lions, who want to compost their lobster dinner waste, and we should think about how to gather up other big event waste, such as that found at weddings

HILLARY UPDATE – She got a grant of \$600 from Eco Maine to enable grades 2 through 5 to tour landfill and recycling center. She will be working on logistics after the holidays. Recycling at the school is making considerable progress. Al says he is still taking a lot of trash, and Pat Paquette may lead a waste audit, but nevertheless, everything is definitely getting better!

SWAP SHOP - Amy reported on a community thrift store in Moab UT. It supports non profits that work in the store. This is very different than an individual running it for profit like the one we saw in St. George and may be more palatable to current patrons. Link to Moab: <https://www.wabisabimoab.com/programs-and-participate>
Pat suggested that we have a group meeting including the people that frequent the swap shop and pick from it to talk about the problems there and ideas to change it, and to get their input into its problems and solutions. Gabe suggested that we wait until Kenny can measure the weight of a swap shop cleanout.

GLEANNING – Gillian Welch, our new Island Fellow is joining our committee and would like to work with Carvers to make use of food that is still edible but is coming off the shelves. Gleaning – new word for the secretary. ☺

NEXT MEETING: will be to sticker compost buckets, and to be determined when we know the stickers will be in.