



Meeting Minutes 6/12/2017

In Attendance: Amy Lear, Gabe McPhail, Pat Lundholm, Del Webster

1. The plan is to have one more Sunday morning transfer station trip to finish the clean up of the landfill, 7:30 June 18. Then we can tackle the signs. On Sunday, we will walk around and look at the bins to plan the signs.
2. We planned the next few Wind articles, which Amy fine tuned after the meeting.
3. The introductory letter that Anna is working on to the restaurants (next meeting) will also go to Eldercare, ICMS, the School, and the Chamber. The Chamber has a summer break coming up. Possibly everyone is too busy to think about change right now... perhaps we are better to focus on individuals (including summer people) for the next couple of months, and tackle businesses in the fall.
4. We talked a little about the duplicate bins – there could be one for aluminum and tin and possibly use one of those slots for light paper. It is also ergonomically not a healthy lift to reach over and in to pick up the totes. However, it is how they seal the winter weather out.
5. Gabe will experiment with sealing the edges of the signboard.
6. Amy has the email forwarding working for islandwastewatchers@gmail.com.

Sunday, June 18th, 7:30 for another round of tree cutting at the transfer station. **Bring a helper if you can. We will also look at the layout of the future, and plan the signs.**

6/15/2017 Phone meeting with EcoMaine – Anna, Pat, Andy on the phone with Lissa of EcoMaine

The reason for the meeting was to review the almost final numbers crunch of the cost or savings of transitioning to single stream recycling. With a fairly conservative estimate of “diverting” 17.9% of the recyclable material out of the trash, and estimating that there will be \$0 returned for sale of the recyclables, the Town would be looking at a little over \$8000/year.

This calculation comes from a meticulous spreadsheet, where every item of our current transfer station budget is looked at in detail to estimate how it would change with single stream (overtime pay, supplies consumed at the station, equipment maintenance). It is believed that the \$8000 is a low number. Several things could alter it upwards:

1. Lately, Ecomaine has been paying \$5-12/ton (the spreadsheet is using \$0/ton). There is no guarantee on that figure, and it is possible that the Town could actually have to pay them to take it. It is market driven.
2. When revenue is paid, Vinalhaven would qualify for the “long haul” rate, which is higher than base for customers shipping to them from greater than 80 miles away.
3. The 17.9% indicates one person out of five is participating. Any increase in the participation level will increase the savings.

After a couple of tweaks based on today’s meeting, Andy will bring this to the Selectmen at their next (end of June) board meeting, asking them to go forward.



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A timeline is not clear: if the budget is approved, there will be a total of \$55,000 for transfer station equipment – enough to purchase two compactors. There is not money, however, for a new retaining wall or the fees for an engineer/architect to lay it out. Andy has another plan to save more money – do our own trucking (I didn't record those figures clearly enough to report on).

Possible sequence of events:

1. Get blessing of Selectmen
2. Start with 2 locations for drop off – move demolition where trailers are now, and put single stream next to trash. Most people will see an improvement in time spent at the station, even though the driving will still be clumsy.
3. Design it properly (incorporating our ideas, of course!); build a new retaining wall
4. Add scales at demolition site.

Other: Lissa confirmed Mark King as our best composting resource. Asked about aluminum and tin (can be reused over and over forever), she said they are great to recycle, but ecologically speaking we should work hardest on getting plastic out of our trash. The best value is opaque #2. And the plastic might give us the best success rate with fishermen, as plastic is showing up in everything.