

CITY OF SOUTH PORTLAND, MAINE
SOUTH PORTLAND ENERGY & RECYCLING COMMITTEE
South Portland Energy and Recycling Committee
Meeting Minutes
February 18, 2015
So. Portland Community Center
Large Conference Room

Call to order - 6:30 pm.

Committee

- Bob Foster - At Large (Beecher) Chair - **Absent**
- Jessica Williams - At Large (Blake) Secretary - **Present**
- Rita Thompson - District 1 - **Present**
- Todd Erickson - District 2 - **Present**
- Stanley Cox - District 3 - **Absent**
- Heather Valley - District 4 - **Present**
- Michael Shutts - District 5 - **Present**
- Clyde Barr - At Large (Beecher) - **Present**
- **Vacant - Associate - At Large (Blake)**
- Melinda Timpf - Associate - District 1 - **Present**
- Mike Howe - Associate - District 2 - **Present**
- **Vacant - Associate - District 3**
- Eric Knutsen - Associate - District 4 Vice Chair - **Present**
- Adrian Dowling - Associate - District 5 - **Present**
- Doug Howard - City Liaison - **Present**
- **Vacant - School Department Liaison**

Old Business:

- Acceptance of January's minutes - **Motion to accept: Jessica Williams;**
Seconded: Mike Howe; All in favor.

City Minute:

Doug Howard reported that Julie Rosenbach has been hired as Sustainability Coordinator for the City and she will begin work on March 9th. She will be working with the city on implementation of the Climate Action Plan and will replace Doug as the City Liaison to the ERC. Doug would like to stay on the ERC email list.

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Membership Report and Updates:

- Data gathering for city schools:
 - Heather contacted Dyer Elementary School. She reported that there was not a lot of enthusiasm for providing information.
 - Adrian is waiting to hear back from Skillin Elementary and Memorial Middle Schools.
 - Melinda is waiting to hear back from Brown Elementary School.
 - Jessica made contact with Abby Morgan and Principal Diane Lang at Small Elementary. Abby Morgan will be the contact person there and will provide a detailed outline of composting program.
 - Rita contacted Holy Cross School. Bill Ridge is the contact person there and they have a recycling and composting program in place. It seems that they have saved a significant amount of money as a result of these programs.
 - It was suggested that we ask Mr. Ridge to provide us with more detailed information about the financial benefits of the program and specific data if possible.
 - It was also suggested that we invite Mr. Ridge to come speak to this committee.
 - We could invite Cape Elizabeth ERC members to come speak to us about their school recycling and composting programs. Melinda agreed to contact the Cape Elizabeth committee in order to obtain data about the program.
 - Mike Shutts said he found information related to Portland Public Schools and money saved as a result of their recycling programs.
 - It was suggested that we invite members of the School Board to attend a meeting of this committee.
 - It was acknowledged that funding for school recycling and composting programs is a big issue.
- Consolidated media project.

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- **One goal should be to help the public make the connection between recycling and composting and the economic benefits of such efforts.**
- **Mike Howe is waiting for a response to his request to have this committee submit twice monthly articles to the paper**
- **Clyde agreed to write a newsletter piece on the economics of recycling**
- **Mike Howe agreed to write a newsletter piece on textile recycling.**

New Business: Bring fresh ideas

- **Todd informed the committee that the first meeting for Willard Fest 2015 will be held the week of Feb. 23rd.**
- **It was also suggested that this committee go paperless, to as great an extent as possible.**

Action Items

- **Rita to contact Bill Ridge at Holy Cross School to obtain financial data related composting and recycling programs.**
- **Mike Shutts will attempt to relocate info on the web related to financial benefits of recycling and composting programs to Portland Public Schools. If he can find this, he will post a link on Google Drive.**
- **Melinda to contact Cape Elizabeth Energy and Recycling Committee representatives to obtain financial data related to School recycling and composting programs.**
- **Clyde to write a newsletter article on the economics/financial benefits of recycling and composting.**
- **Mike Howe to write a newsletter article on textile recycling.**

Adjournment - Motion to adjourn: Mike Shutts; Seconded: Mike Howe; Meeting adjourned 7:45pm.

Next meeting: Wed., March 18, 2015 - Community Center