

CITY OF SOUTH PORTLAND, MAINE
SOUTH PORTLAND ENERGY & RECYCLING COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

October 17, 2018
6:00pm – 8:00pm

S. Portland Community Center
Art Room

Committee Members

Jessica Williams - District 1 – **Vice-Chair P**
Andrew Capelluti - District 2 – **Chair P**
Greg Williams – District 1
Taylor Strubell – District 2 **Secretary P**
Michele Danois – District 2
Jaime Madore – District 2 P

Daniel Paul – District 3 P
Joseph Fournier - District 5
Ellen Zimmerman District 2
Jessica Walker District 4 P
Vacant - School Department Liaison
Lucy Brennan - City Liaison P

Call to Order – 6:30pm

Taylor and Jessica gave a WindowDressers update a synopsis of which is attached.

We asked for volunteers for scrounging food. Jaime will check Amato's and Otto. I will check Scratch. Jess Walker will check Little Bigs and Willows so far.

Andres suggested we get some photos of people measuring as well as building, and asked us to find out what WD inserts save in terms of fuel other than oil (rule of thumb is that each square foot of insert saves a gallon of oil). Also can we reach out in the Spring and see if people have good before and after vibes? Jessica noted how ebullient the man at Fresh Pickins Farm was about the inserts he put in his barn/workshop several years ago.

We talked a little about the challenges of multi family building recycling, but Julie and Lucy are cooking up a plan. They were approached by The Recycling Partnership (or they approached The Recycling Partnership) which is in itself a partnership with at least 40 large organizations (from Amazon to Coca Cola to Sappi). They are all about bins instead of bins or bags. However that does not really solve the conundrum of large apartment complexes. SoPo's ordinance prevents City pick up recycling from any multi family over 4 units, and there are 2,000 of them in SoPo. Data and idea gathering next. Revise the ordinance? Not everyone has room to store recyclables? We need to make it as easy as possible for people to recycle. Need a strong education campaign. Right now beside the bins there are 4 “free” sites where citizens can drop off food waste, but only a couple for other recyclables. It would be great to find an enthusiastic property owner who is willing to work with the city. Avesta? SoPo Housing Authority? Betsy Ross House?

Lucy gave a great update on the food waste recycling. There was an increase from 1,400 lbs in July to 8,500 in September. Over 1,000 13 gallon bins have been handed out. Planning a city wide postcard re food waste recycling.

Energy Expo Sat Sept 20 10 to 2. Jessica will attend and represent WindowDressers.

LED street lights are going in with a third party contractor. Hopefully they will all be installed in the next month.

Lucy attended the NEEP Summit (Northeast Energy Efficiency) She got to tour a net zero school in NH. Andrew to attend the Middle School Meeting on Oct 18 and report back.

Lucy to write an article for the Sustainability Column. Net zero for the City would be great but the City can not exceed the State codes. Is there or should there be anew energy policy for new buildings?

Our website:

Mockup of page attached.

It should be mostly static (otherwise too hard to maintain, but we should have an answer for the public's questions and also provide information about: Green Buildings, Transportation, Recycling, Energy, Landscapes, Plans (map of EPA sea rise, Greenway Plan, Open Space Plan, Willard Plan, Sustainability Plan, Climate Action Plan)

Andrew to bring more information next meeting to discuss.

Meeting Adjourned @ 7:45

**Respectively Submitted,
Taylor Strubell, Sec.**