



PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

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Bath Solid Waste Advisory Committee
Meeting of January 24, 2022
Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Lee Leiner, George Sprague, Brook Vail
Members Absent: Elizabeth Dingley, Aaron Park, Paul Perkins, Lou Ricciardone
Guests: Megan Pryor

Agenda:

- Composting with Bath Housing Authority
- Continue to work on MDEP Waste Diversion Grant - backyard composter program
- Curbside recycling in plastic bags

Brook announced she is leaving the committee. Megan has volunteered to apply for membership in her place.

George gave a summary of the status of various aspects of the backyard composter discussion. The committee is on pace to check off all the tasks on the action item list in time to distribute the bins during Maine Compost Week May 1-7, 2022.

The committee reviewed the various paper documents produced by Lindsey Goudreau.

Question on how much lead time there would be to get compost-related information onto the PAYT bag inserts. The City's bag supplier, WasteZero has indicated they would need to work through all existing information sheets prior to including an edited version. Lee will try to get WasteZero to report how many existing sheets are in the queue.

The survey was discussed, and one or two edits were identified. The questions on waste reduction are necessarily subjective. However, Megan (representing MDEP) indicated that they were adequate to report results as required by the grant award.

Minor edits were also identified for the tri-fold brochure and banner.

Megan announced that Mark King, of MDEP, will be giving a presentation on composting to the Bath Garden Club on February 15. It is scheduled to be recorded and could be reused for the education effort on the backyard bins.

Lee reported on a minor issue with curbside collection of recyclable materials. Many residents were upset recently that Pine Tree has discontinued collection of bagged recycling. It has been the long-time policy of the City that recycling is not collected in bags, so this change brought Pine Tree's policy back in line with the City. It is unclear when Pine Tree began collecting bagged materials as that was not consistent with the company policy.

Next meeting: 5:00 PM, Monday, February 28, 2022, in the auditorium at City Hall

Note: The committee will plan to meet the fourth Monday of each month at 5 PM