Solid Waste Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

July 26, 2019

Board members present: Phil Griffin, Charlotte Hebert, Kim Drake, Adam VonDette, and Audrey Bethel

Also present: Laura Buono , Jon Daley, and Luke Levesque

We begin by reviewing the success of SWAB presence at the Fest & Fair

Jon reports that there were approximately 8,000 folks who attended over the 4 days and that we did signifigantly make an impact getting people to think about their single-use water bottle consumption as well as to recycle approximately one entire truckload of aluminum.

Many refills were had and we “sold out” of the refillable water bottles that Charlotte had bought as well as the ones Audrey bought to augment ( approximately 40 water bottles were distributed by donation $2-5 sliding scale)

Next year we would like to have a ticker counter to keep track of all the water refills we do. Just Sunday we went through 16 gallons of water and 7 bags of ice!

Luke says that it feels good to have others getting the word out, and he felt our messaging was spot on – recycle aluminum, try not to use plastic.

Many people asked if we would recycle plastic, which gave us opportunity to talk about the current state of the plastic recycling conundrum.

The raffle of the bicycle was good to make a little more revenue for the committee.

We generated $131 after all paid up for ice, water bottles, can crushers, miscellaneous.

Audrey is holding on to petty cash for now. Jon Daley says he will take receipts and create a spreadsheet of our finances.

We discuss what to do with the money generated. For now, group decides NO on T-shirts, YES on more stickers, and hold on to the rest for more important needs. Audrey will reorder stickers (we have less than 100 left from the initial 500 ordered).

Luke fills us in on the drop in cardboard prices and how he is currently working to re-negotiate better deal—as he isn’t getting a penny for cardboard right now ( renting container, trucking, etc.) either NRRA will cut him a deal or he will go directly to cardboard recycling plant and find independent trucking.

Audrey re-visits the notion of separating tin from plastics and says it would be good to keep this on the radar as a goal before winter time so that SWAB can be helpful in standing around at the recycling center on weekends talking to folks about the change.

Plastics all still going up to Casella plant in White River Junction.

Cans crushing would help with trucking costs , as we re-visit the notion of bailer for cans, but Luke explains that currently can trucking relative to how much $ we spend trucking plastic is no contest.

Cans $150/ once every 2 weeks to Concord (could be more like once every five weeks if all crushed) however,

Plastics $250/ 2X a week to White River Junction!

We discuss Patrick’s interest in visiting more classrooms to discuss trash and recycling in the elementary school come the fall time.

We then discuss how SWAB can have a presence at Hillsboro History Alive! Event Aug 17& 18th .

Charlotte says she can be main point person Saturday 8/17 and Audrey can do Sunday 8/18 .

We will help refill water at small hydration stations.. ( there will be “water buffalo” truck at re-enactment site on Jones Rd. so no need there, just in Old Hillsborough Center).

Set up is 9 am – 5 pm. Phil says he can try to swing by Saturday afternoon and Adma might coe by Sunday afternoon…

The committee will be in touch to work out details.

**\*\*\*By accident , We did not set up a Next Meeting so that will be determined through an email chain!**