



Town of Plaistow, NH
Trash & Recycling Advisory Committee (TRAC)
145 Main Street, Plaistow, NH 03865

TRAC MINUTES
May 13, 2021

The following statement was read into the record:

The Plaistow Trash & Recycling Advisory Committee, due to the COVID-19/Coronavirus crisis and in accordance with Governor Sununu's Emergency Order #12 pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04, is authorized to meet electronically, and these reasons shall be reflected in the minutes.

The Plaistow TRAC is utilizing the Zoom program of the GoToMeeting platform for this electronic meeting. All members of the Board have the ability to communicate contemporaneously during the meeting through the Zoom program, and the public has access to contemporaneously listen and, if necessary, participate in this meeting. There is no physical location to view this meeting. The link to access this meeting is provided on the Town's website.

There is a "raise your hand" feature of the program that will allow attendees to participate in the discussion. There is also a Q&A box for the public to type questions during the meeting. The Public can also send emails with questions or concerns prior to the meeting to dvoss@plaistow.com. Please note: all questions and concerns typed into the Q & A box or sent via email will be read aloud to become part of the public record.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:04 PM

ROLL CALL: Isabel Gautreau, Chair
Robert Kinkaid, Vice Chair, *departed 8:02pm*
Richard Anthony
Deborah Esparza-St. Louis
Kelley Fox
Maryann Little, *excused*
Mary Anne LoCascio, *arrived 7:52pm*

★ *All members were present via remote access*

Also present: Darrell Britton, *Selectmen*

Agenda Item 2: Review/Approval April 8, 2021 Minutes

★ *I. Gautreau moved, second by R. Kinkaid, to approve the minutes of the April 8, 2021 meeting as written. There was no discussion on the motion.*

Roll Call Vote: *I. Gautreau – yes; R. Kinkaid – yes; R. Anthony – yes; D. Esparza-St.Louis – yes; K. Fox – yes. The vote was 5-0-0 U/A.*

Agenda Item 3: Old Business

a. Board of Selectmen (BOS) April 26 Meeting Report/ BOS Public Hearing May 17, 2021

I. Gautreau reported on the April 26, 2021, meeting with the Board of Selectmen (BOS), where the recommendations of the TRAC were shared. It was also noted that there were a couple of questions from BOS Chair Greg Taillon, that were being checked out. It was also noted that

there will be a Public Hearing on Trash and Recycling hosted by the BOS on Monday, May 17, 2021.

I. Gautreau also noted that the costs associated with producing additional educational materials are not available in the budget this year. She added that it was suggested that Northeast Resource Recovery Association (NRRA) be invited to make a presentation at Town Hall when the BOS, TRAC and Public could attend.

There was discussion regarding the format of such a meeting and whether or not it could be made available via Zoom.

b. Guest Speakers (NRRA and Waste Zero)

K. Fox noted that she had tried to email her contact at NRRA twice, without a reply. She was concerned that there may be too much information being shared when the Town has not yet joined. K. Fox said that she would dig through their website for additional information as well as continue to reach out.

c. Updating Recycling Flyer

There was discussion regarding how best to update the JRM flyer with the recycling information that had recently been confirmed by M. LoCascio. D. Voss will try to update the flyer and send it to TRAC members for comment. Once updated the flyer will be added to the website and posted on Facebook. (Action Item)

There was discussion regarding making sure that any flyer would be compatible with different vendors that may be approved for the new contract. It was determined that it would be less confusing than to publish an updated one now, then have to edit it for a vendor later.

R. Kinkaid offered to contact Casella and see if the revised flyer would be applicable to their services. (Action Item)

I. Gautreau suggested that it could be compared to what ever materials were on the Casella website.

There was additional discussion about educational materials.

There was discussion about the timeline for the trash and recycling RFP and potential vendors. It was also noted that the BOS had been encouraged to resolve the cart question sooner than later, as plastics prices were beginning to rise significantly, and are anticipated to peak in August. There was additional discussion on leasing versus purchasing the carts, with the concern that had been expressed at previous meetings about mixing models having some owned and some leased carts. It was noted that leasing carts was more expensive than outright purchasing them. There was discussion about making sure that the BOS is aware of the increase in plastics and to recommend that they proceed expeditiously with decided about additional carts. It was also noted that it wasn't yet guaranteed that recycling would be included in the RFP, which would change the need to order additional carts.

Agenda Item 4: Action Items – Updates and Review List of Added Items (if any)

★ *M. LoCascio arrived at 7:52 p.m.*

- a. Raymond Transfer Station (Contract Expiration)**
- b. Merrimack, NH single-stream recycling**

It was noted that Merrimack does not have curbside collection, but they use a transfer station, so their circumstances were not comparable to Plaistow.

c. Additional Educational Materials (for posting)

I. Gautreau provided some examples of paper products. There was a discussion that the products were good, but there was concern that it could be perceived as an endorsement by TRAC. It was suggested that specific product references could be removed, and the information could be more generalized.

There was discussion regarding posting to the Town's Facebook page and whether it was just reserved for news and announcements, or if the TRAC could post to it. D. Voss offered to check on the page's policy. (Action Item). It was noted that individual members were free to personally post recycling suggestions on Facebook, provided they did not identify that it was posted on behalf of, or endorsed by TRAC, to avoid any issues with 91-A.

There was discussion about the Vic Geary Center collecting plastics to be converted to a bench as well as Home Depot collecting plastic planter pots back to recycle them.

★ I. Gautreau moved, second by M. LoCascio that information regarding the Vic Geary Center's plastics collection drive and Home Depot's planter recycling be posted to the TRAC webpage. There was no discussion on the motion.

Roll Call Vote: I. Gautreau – yes; R. Kinkaid – yes; R. Anthony – yes; D. Esparza-St.Louis – yes; K. Fox – yes; M. LoCascio – yes. The vote was 6-0-0 U/A.

★ R, Kinkaid departed the meeting at 8:02 pm.

M. LoCascio provided an update on Waste Zero, noting that she hasn't been able to connection with her contact. She also updated on the Raymond Transfer Station, noting the contract with the Town of Raymond would be expiring in a year and a half, at which point it may be privatized and residents will have to pay on their own to dispose of trash.

D. Britton noted that many towns in the northern part of the state have private trash collection so that it doesn't impact taxes.

There was discussion about the future of transfer stations. It was noted that it was the goal of Waste Zero to reduce the amount of trash being collected by suggesting alternatives.

There was discussion about gathering additional information to post to the website. All TRAC members were encouraged to research and provide links that the Committee could approve to be posted to the webpage (Action Item).

New Items Added at This Meeting

- Continue to work with Waste Zero to have them provide a presentation to the TRAC and BOS (M. LoCascio)
- Edit Recycling Flyer and circulate to members (D. Voss)
- Compare Revised Recycling Flyer to Cassells flyer available on their website (R. Kinkaid)
- Find out policy for posting to Town's Facebook page, is it for town news and events only, or can TRAC post recycling suggestions? (D. Voss)
- Contact Haley Bush regarding information on setting up a table at Old Home Day (I. Gautreau, D. Voss to provide email address)
- Ask about donation police and whether or not items can be solicited from local businesses to be raffled at Old Home Day (M. LoCascio)
- Recycling Resource Links – to be considered for posting to website (TRAC)

Agenda Item 5: New Business

R. Anthony explained a partnership between Coca-Cola and Epping, NH. He noted that it was a fairly new program, and he didn't have all the details yet. He will gather more information to bring to the Committee.

I. Gautreau will be reaching out to the Old Home Day Committee (OHDC) regarding a table for TRAC. (Action Item) She would like to offer raffle items on the table

D. Voss to provide email contact of OHDC. (Action Item)

There was discussion regarding the Town's Donation Policy and whether or not the BOS would need to accept the donations or if there was a monetary level where the Committee could accept a donation. M. LoCascio offered to check into the Town's Donation Policy. (Action Item).

There was no additional business before the committee and the meeting was adjourned at 8:31 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dee Voss
Administrative Assistant