

Old Orchard Beach Recycling Committee
Meeting, Tuesday, April 14, 2009
Location: OOB High School Library

Present: John Bird, Jacqui Deveneau, Fred Dolgan, Cris Hudson, Suzanne Scalise, John Weaver and Bill Farley
Not present: Jetta Antonakos

7:07 PM Meeting convened.

Item I:

Meeting minutes from 03-24-09 read by Suzanne
John Bird asked that one item be changed in the meeting minutes
Fred motioned to accept meeting minutes as read with changes
John Weaver seconded
All in favor
Meeting minutes accepted as read

Item II:

Mission Statement was read by Fred
It was suggested that some verbiage be changed.
Cris had a copy of a mission statement written by the first Recycling Committee
John Weaver moved to adopt the mission statement as read with changes.
Cris seconded
All in favor

Item III:

John Weaver brought in information regarding implementation of recycling programs in other towns.
Jetta had sent a communication to John W regarding the program in Bath.

Bath:

Bath has a similar pay per bag (PAYT) program
They had an increase of recycling by approximately 20%
Previously there was no curbside pick up
The catalyst for the change was that the land fill in Bath was closing
Pine Tree Waste/Casella runs their program.
In the Southern Maine area most facilities will accept single sort
There are also facilities in Massachusetts and New Hampshire that will accept recycling
What has been found is that there is a better contract if the contract deals with receiving waste-not
always good at the hauling.
In Bath the town owns every aspect of the process until it ends up at the 'receiver'. It is about a 20 year
process to cover the cost of closing down the land fill.
How do you prove you are saving money with PAYT?
Could the town use the same budget for waste and then take the money from the sale of bags and place
in an escrow account and show what kind of money is being saved?
Bath uses 33 gallon cans with bumper stickers placed on them. The town provides the stickers for the
can. Use of 2-18 gallon containers is acceptable as long as they are clearly labeled.

Saco:

Their (recycling) numbers were as good as Bath's
It is an automated system.
Saco bought the barrels. Purchased 3 per residence (brown, blue, green) then when they went to the
single stream it eliminated the need for a 3rd container
General feeling on the committee: that now is not the time to put forward a program that would make
the town incur so much in start up costs.

Many PAYT towns don't provide curbside pick up. Cape Elizabeth and Falmouth have to haul their own. Can there be a silver bullet placed somewhere in town?

John Bird spoke about the committee expectations, which are

- input for the Request for Proposal
- increase recycling

John Bird also explained that the towns recycling goes to whoever BBI chooses to bring it to.

OOB has a contract with MERC. EcoMaine is, at this point, a receiver only for OOB recycling when BBI brings it there.

Why is it okay for the town to engage in a 25 years contract with MERC, but cannot engage in a 7 year contract with EcoMaine at no cost?

The MERC contract has 3 clauses so that the town will not be penalized when waste tonnage decreases.

They are:

- if waste is diverted
- if a company goes out of business
- if town institutes a recycling program and takes waste away from the tonnage.

Unfortunately, there are no valid statistics to support this.

Large companies such as Waste Management/Casella will sort recycling and send it off. Basically, the same functionality as EcoMaine but the process is more spread out.

BBI is strictly a hauler.

Trash to MERC has gone down. There was a change; the town no longer picks up commercial waste.

Commercial waste is now hauled by individual haulers.

How do you sell PAYT to the towns' residents without increasing their costs when hauling is already paid with tax money?

PAYT vs. limiting residential container pick up.

Item IV:

Education and Outreach Sub-Committee Report

John Bird brought up that the Town Manager, by way of Kim (McLaughlin), has a form that needs to be filled out for the \$500.00 spent by the committee. Cris was given the form to hold onto.

Missi Labbe will join the next sub-committee meeting. She will be able to share with the group what resources can be used from different places.

Some ideas that were brought up were:

- barrels on the beach with lids on them placed next to the garbage cans for recycling
- how to get literature out?
 - +make tri-folds – won't need envelopes

No bulk code for town but the chamber of commerce has one which could be used.

-stickers for recycling bins

-Silver bullets in the town for those who don't have recycling pick up, condos/multi units

Transfer hours are not conducive to supporting recycling.

-want to create the tri-folds at the next sub-committee meeting using information that EcoMaine has available. Jetta is also available to help.

The grant has a June 27th deadline.

John Bird said he spoke to the town manager to get a token \$1000.00 for the recycling committee (a \$30,000.00 budget was also thrown out as a figure).

John Bird also asked the sub-comm to put together a budget for the costs associated with implementing some of their ideas, such as, Stuff the Magic Dragon, mailers, stickers and other projects.

Item V:

Report from the Chair.

John Bird put together a loose time line.

DRAFT / WORKING DOCUMENT

MSW IMPLEMENTATION

POSSIBLE TIME LINE

MAY - Formal recommendation from the Recycling Committee on Direction to Take and implementation. Work on overall RFP to continue.

JUNE - Weekly Recycling Pickup to start. Heavy local positive advertising & publicity re: Recycling & new recycling pickup policy. Distribution of Recycling literature and LABELS to each Residential MSW pickup. Thereafter, to be available free @ Town Hall.

JULY – Continue with publicity. Separate accounting for Municipal Solid Waste to be set up. Notice to be printed on tax bill. Possible wording:

“Last year, 3.6% (or whatever it was) of your property taxes went to provide Solid Waste (trash and recycling) pickup and disposal. Since the Town is changing to a new, fairer and more responsible system which will encourage more recycling this Fall, called PAY TO THROW – RECYCLE TO SAVE, this year's tax bill includes only one-quarter of that or about 0.8% (or whatever) to fund operations until then. Next year the cost of Solid Waste disposal will not be included in your property taxes since it will be separately funded and accounted for by the new system.”

After tax bills go out, more publicity on Recycling and explanation of the new program.

AUGUST - Continue with publicity. RFP to go out for complete new program. To include Bidding Options (May be combined into one offer or bid separately) and Conditions:

Options – Trash Pickup and Delivery to MERC

- Recyclables Pickup and Delivery
- Recyclables Disposal (separate pricing for commercial for Town)
- Transfer Station?
- Contractor funded and implemented education?

Conditions (Partial) - All trash must be in OOB bags to be picked up. Not to be picked up if not in bag. OOB responsible ONLY for bagged trash as MSW

- Trash & recyclables may NOT be mixed!
- OOB & outside trash and/or recyclables may NOT be mixed!.
- Title to recyclables to remain with Town until disposed of
- Detailed, defined weekly reports to be sent to the Town on pick up & disposal of both trash & recyclables.

END OF SEPTEMBER – Last pickup w/o bags – 2 free bags and literature to be left at each pickup. After that, bags to be available for sale at the Town Hall, stores, Transfer Station, etc.

OCTOBER - No more MSW to be picked up, transported to MERC or paid for by the Town unless bagged.

There had been some talk about putting a flyer in the tax bill that gets mailed out to owners.

The tax bills are printed up in June and mailed in July.

By-laws do not allow flyers to be added to the tax bill. Another option would be to add a line item on the bill.

The working timeline included a lot of publicity. That will require funding.

Louis Reid can send off an email letting people know that the committee received the grant money.

Jacqui, Cris, Fred-someone will need to write something up and contact Louis.

Possible meeting with the Town Council next week for a workshop to talk about the direction the committee should move in along with the necessity of money.

What's the time frame for the next month?

Ideas for publicity/a campaign?

Direction the group will take

Is PAYT the direction we want to take?

Recommendation

Ideas-deciding what we would like put into the recommendation and the cost associated with line item expectations.

PAYT with weekly pick up of both solid waste and recycling

How to get a handle on how much waste is hauled?

Provide recycling containers.

The group wrote down their ideas for the recommendation during the meeting and John Bird will type up.

Bill Farley will put together a budget which will include the recycling station/dragon idea

Cris motioned to adjourn

Bill seconded

9:17 PM the meeting adjourned.

The next scheduled meeting is for the second Tuesday in May, May 12, 2009.

s/Suzanne Scalise

Respectfully Submitted,

Suzanne Scalise

Secretary Old Orchard Beach Recycling Committee