

## Task Force on Recycling

### Minutes

October 10, 2016 at 4 pm.

Attending: Ted Koffman, Arnold Lundquist, Robert Rechholtz, Clark Stivers, Mike Handwerk. Staff- Chip Reeves, Cornell Knight. Gary Friedmann, Lisa Bjerke.

Lis Bjerke did a powerpoint presentation on Materials Management for Bar Harbor and ways to improve participation in recycling. She quoted Mount Desert Island recycling is 13% and the state average is 34%. She explained that Maine law requires all municipalities to be at least 50% but most are nowhere near the goal.

Chip distributed historical information of recycled material volumes and revenue. Also the last 25 years of PERC deliveries.

Chip also reviewed the Transfer Station plan and traffic flow with 2 drive in bays and a hopper in the middle. Commercial haulers will have a separate bay to back up to the hopper. Trailers will be filled using a hydraulic ram system in the lower level. By having the trailers enclosed in a building there will be less odors, less leachate and no rain water that adds to the weight of the load. It will be a safer and more convenient operation for the customers and since the msw will be better compacted the trailers will be heavier and should reduce the number of trips annually. The committee was concerned that the new proposal represents current methodologies

The committee discussed charging for commercial waste. Since 2/3 of the waste at the transfer station is commercial with little recycling it represents a huge issue. Everyone acknowledges that changing our process is a difficult subject. Mr. Knight said the By Laws would need to be amended by the Town Council to consider that fee.

Mike Handwerk said that Universal Waste Disposal is an opportunity to increase rates of recycling.

There was discussion on how to get more recycling rates up without a PAYT program. Policing the hopper for better participation was mentioned. Single Sort recycling might be a method to improve rates. The Recycling Building project could be much smaller with single sort because there would be no baling but there would be less revenue and some cost. Less labor costs are likely. Chip will work on costs and how a single sort program would work.

The next meeting will be Monday October 24<sup>th</sup> at 4 pm.