



# Salem Recycles Committee

## DRAFT Meeting Minutes

June 4, 2024

6:30pm, City Hall Annex, 1st Floor Conference Room

Appointed Members: Mari Alix, Jen Birenbach (Clerk), Bruce Cohen, Joel Dashnaw (Chair), Catherine Deyo, Demi Fox, Cameron Fullerton, Nancy Gilberg, Carol Hautau (Vice-Chair), Daniell Hepting, Sandy O'Donnell, Lucie Patrowicz, Brian Romer  
City Liaison: Janelle Rolke

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### **Attending:**

Appointed Members: Mari Alix, Jen Birenbach (Clerk), Joel Dashnaw (Chair), Demi Fox (virtual), Cameron Fullerton, Nancy Gilberg, Carol Hautau (Vice-Chair), Daniell Hepting, Sandy O'Donnell, Lucie Patrowicz, Brian Romer, Janelle Rolke  
Absent: Bruce Cohen, Catherine Deyo  
Guest: Robin Panzer

### **Old Business**

#### Approve May Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve: Brian

Second: Mari

Roll call Vote: (w/virtual attendance) 1 abstain, 8 approved with edits submitted

#### Living Green Expo (5/11)

Table went well, a lot of curbside composting interest, distributed recycle smart information, attendance seemed lower than last year, fewer vendors but a steady day - talks seemed low attendance - PR is run by the Salem Chamber of Commerce - posted in many places - Janelle to supply feedback to the Chamber about the event, if possible

NOTE: Compost has gone up to at least 928 from 915 @ March meeting

#### Repair Café & TerraCycle Collection Event (5/18)

Fewer fixers available for this event, 24 appointments, 19 items fully repaired; all guests gave 5/5 "very satisfied" rating or their experience

Next Time: include address of event in reminder emails!

**ACTION:** Consideration for the Committee: discontinuing May event due to lower availability and competing events; could potentially increase the number of fixers at the November and February Cafes to allow for additional appointments at those two events annually

#### Swap 'N Drop Event, 10-1 (6/8)

8,000 people coming for Art Fest - first time doing this on the same date

**ACTION:** Possible Rain: Decide by Thursday 6pm, rain date is June 15th, planning for rain date Thursday pm

City can send out an announcement if it's raining

Thursday night send out the newsletter with updated information

If happens, rainy or not

Bring a couple city tents, chairs, a couple tables, bin of reusable bags, BYOWater, BYOSnacks

Volunteers: 9 signed up

Boxes for packing up left overs: Cameron brought example box, has around 12, dropping at Jen's house

Janelle asking ReSupply if they have extra boxes

Next Event Stewardship: Nancy considering taking this on

#### Styrofoam Collection Event, 10-1, CLC (6/22)

Janelle: volunteer form sent out already, 2 shifts, traffic management, collecting & bagging styrofoam, breaking very large pieces into chunks inside the bags helps fill the bags

Volunteers: Need around 10, signing up on the form is best

### **New Business**

#### Solid Waste Tonnage Update

**ACTION:** (Janelle emailing chart to attach to the minutes)

Curbside Services, \$80/ton - July 2025 new contract, expected to be much higher

Municipal, Curbside only

Solid Waste Tonnage: 2021: 12,074, 2022: 11,468, 2023: 11,204

Number of Bulk items: 2021: 12,950, 2022: 10,381, 2023: 3,025

Composting will decrease the tonnage.

Recycling Tonnage (includes contaminants, which can be heavy):

Includes schools and public housing authority, but not DPW/Public trash.

2022: 3,585

2023: 3,593

2024: 1,189 4 months, so looking like 3,567

Contaminant issue: Gel packs from meal kits & medications, etc - told it's look to put in the drain but it clogs the pipes like a fat, not recyclable

#### Future End of Year Waste Diversion for Schools

Salem Public Schools is energized to reduce waste this school year.

(6 Elementary, 1 Middle, 1 Salem Academy, 1 High School)

Items that are regularly wasted: paper, writing implements, chairs, batteries, craft supplies, scissors, rulers, etc.

We can start simple and fast and then ramp up for larger programming.

Batteries can be dropped in the box, then picked up and delivered to Staples.

Task Force/Subcommittee for Schools - those people build the relationships with the school's Green Team, PTO, Staff, etc.

**ACTION:** Think on it and put this on the August Agenda to set up the system

#### Haunted Happenings Parade, Thursday 10/3

Theme is "Our Time on Earth"

SERC (Stacy Kilb) has asked SalemRecycles to join them in the parade

**ACTION:** Janelle connecting with Stacey Kilb

Candy wrapper connection

"Time to recycle" type of story

Jen, Joel, Demi, Sandy interested

Agreements (Bylaws) Continued

Tabled for the August meeting -

**ACTION:** Jen edited document out with a reminder to read it about a week in advance

September Bookswap

MoreThanWords is already scheduled for pick up

Taskforce- Jen, Brian, 1 or 2 more volunteers

Newsletter

Gel Packs: Recyclable?? (The FOG: Fats, Oils & Greases)

**ACTION:** Joel will look into available reports or draft something himself for gel packs

Open Time

General Announcements & Guest Participation Welcome

August Meeting Agenda Items

-Draft ByLaws

-Officer Positions

-Waste Diversion in Schools - begin with batteries

-Event updates

-September Bookswap: MoreThanWords is already scheduled for pick up- Taskforce- Jen, Brian,

-Event Planning- Food Truck Festival, Textile Drive, Repair Cafe

Future Planning

October Meeting- 2025 event planning

Tropical Products has opened a space for people to have a gathering if we ever need it.

Meeting adjourned

	Solid Waste Tonnage	Number of Bulk items
Jan-21	914.27	913
Feb-21	830.78	667
Mar-21	999.6	1189
Apr-21	1006.9	1158
May-21	936.95	1129
Jun-21	1122.17	1180
Jul-21	1074.54	1117
Aug-21	1024.27	1183
Sep-21	1086.84	1173
Oct-21	1009.84	1109
Nov-21	1041.22	1149
Dec-21	1027.61	983
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>12074.99</b>	<b>12950</b>

	Solid Waste Tonnage	Number of Bulk items
Jan-22	866.13	613
Feb-22	851.79	498
Mar-22	943.85	847
Apr-22	934.51	909
May-22	936.81	1043
Jun-22	1079.11	1073
Jul-22	894.75	973
Aug-22	1066.67	1216
Sep-22	1006.89	1009
Oct-22	957.73	827
Nov-22	1006.6	784
Dec-22	923.32	589
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>11468.16</b>	<b>10381</b>

	Solid Waste Tonnage	Number of Bulk items
Jan-23	967.15	370
Feb-23	791.25	333
Mar-23	932.79	213
Apr-23	817.4	214
May-23	979.67	198
Jun-23	1020.14	339
Jul-23	938.66	253
Aug-23	1006.94	233
Sep-23	957.09	220
Oct-23	929.21	233
Nov-23	970.73	240
Dec-23	893	179
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>11204.03</b>	<b>3025</b>

	Solid Waste Tonnage	Number of Bulk items
Jan-24	987.97	138
Feb-24	893	144
Mar-24	870.92	183
Apr-24	935.67	179
May-24		
Jun-24		
Jul-24		
Aug-24		
Sep-24		
Oct-24		
Nov-24		
Dec-24		
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>3687.56</b>	<b>644</b>

	Recycling Tonnage
Jan-22	308
Feb-22	257
Mar-22	313
Apr-22	281
May-22	275
Jun-22	333
Jul-22	269
Aug-22	333
Sep-22	297
Oct-22	300
Nov-22	310
Dec-22	309
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>3585.56</b>

	Recycling Tonnage
Jan-23	327
Feb-23	268
Mar-23	293
Apr-23	255
May-23	298
Jun-23	302
Jul-23	297
Aug-23	313
Sep-23	298
Oct-23	308
Nov-23	314
Dec-23	321
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>3593</b>

	Recycling Tonnage
Jan-24	355
Feb-24	249
Mar-24	272
Apr-24	314
May-24	
Jun-24	
Jul-24	
Aug-24	
Sep-24	
Oct-24	
Nov-24	
Dec-24	
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>1189.24</b>