



**SOUTH SHORE
RECYCLING
COOPERATIVE**

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Meeting of the South Shore Recycling Cooperative, November 21, 2019, Kingston, MA

Chairman Brown called the meeting to order at 9:05 AM and asked the members to introduce themselves. Attendees:

Town

Abington	Angela Dahlstrom*, Marty Golightly*
Cohasset	Merle Brown*, Andria Benn, Dougie Patterson
Duxbury	No attendee
Hanover	No attendee
Hanson	Arlene Dias*
Hingham	No attendee
Hull	No attendee
Kingston	Paul Basler*, Jean Landis Naumann*
Middleboro	No attendee
Norwell	Ben Margro
Pembroke	No attendee
Plymouth	Kerin McCall*, Everett Malaguti
Rockland	Delshaune Flipp*, Stephen Nelson*
Scituate	No attendee
Weymouth	Fred Happel*
Whitman	No attendee
Mass DEP	Ellie Donovan
SSRC	Claire Galkowski
Darby Marketing	Debra Darby

(*Appointed Board Representatives)

Debra Darby, [Darby Marketing](#) spoke to the group about the services her company offers for organics recycling. She pointed out that Bioplastics are biodegradable, therefore, compostable. She works closely with the haulers and composters. Thirty-two (32) percent of the waste stream is compostable (includes food scraps, paper towels, tissues)

Compostable is defined as per the ASTM standard, it breaks down completely and becomes a nutrient rich soil product. Compostables have a time horizon, depending on facility; 80-95 days is typical.

Source separated organics have a dedicated bin for food scraps to divert them from the solid waste stream. Organix Solutions produces a durable compostable bag. In the co-collection process the bag of easily identifiable organics is pulled out at the trash disposal facility. This process can be used for curbside, or drop-off collection systems.

People who want to recycle are good at it with low contamination. Residents sign up through the town. Organix Solutions ships 1 year's-worth of bags to the home. This system requires no extra truck or cart.

Mass DEP RDP funds can be used. Towns can work regionally to hire consultant, buy carts (drop off), and cover costs for 2 years. After 2 years, it may be fee based. .

Delshaune reporting she is meeting with BEC today (Andrew), and will use a Rockland compost site. Rockland will do both curbside and drop-off, and includes the schools.

Debra stated she can also help expand muni sites to add food waste, and leaf and yard waste is an important component.

Claire pointed out that in an effort to save paper, all documents for meetings will now be available online.

The minutes of the October 3, 2019 meeting were approved.

Claire provided a treasurer's report with the current balance of funds at \$14,630.59.

Voted: to approve the Grind Screen contract extension

Claire led a discussion on planning for the 2020 HHW cost increase. There is a 65-70% increase, mostly in the set-up fee. Claire reported she sent out estimates of the yearly costs to all the Household Hazardous Waste managers and has heard back from a few towns.

Claire would like to approach Lowes and Home Depot to request sponsorships and she asked the members to assist her with this. Paul recommended that all stores that sell HHW be approached. Claire stated that some states are working on bills to require producer liability in disposing of HHW.

Claire pointed out that RDP funds can be used for set-up fees and that the town receives 2 RDP points for providing HHW collection.

Paul suggested that perhaps the group should eliminate allowing residents to attend HHW collections in other towns or have them pay when they get a permit to attend in another town. Paul also recommended the SSRC do public education on how to reduce HHW. Debra suggested we remind residents to use compost instead of store bought fertilizer.

She stated that fee collection presents several issues including residents placing HHW in the trash rather than paying a fee.

Claire led a discussion on propane tanks. Arlene reported that her vendor refused rusty tanks. Others reported it took 7-8 months for a pick-up and large tanks were refused. Claire stated that Standard Welding pays \$3 per tank and they remove the valves and burn off any remaining gas. She is considering hiring Lorraine to handle this issue to place devalved tanks in the metal container. Plymouth reported they are charging residents for each tank.

Claire asked if members wanted to change the meeting schedule and the general consensus was to keep to the same 5-6 week schedule. The same locations will be used for ease of access.

Executive Director's Report

Claire reported this is now online. She is working on a national producer responsibility bill for packaging and a national plastic bag ban. She has participated on national conference calls and has sent written comments.

Claire announced SMRP grant awards for mattress disposal of \$250,000. Other grants are available to assist with setting up Swap Shops.

Claire announced she has hired a bookkeeper.

Next meeting is scheduled for January 16 in Abington.

The meeting adjourned at 10:28 AM.