



TOWN OF YARMOUTH

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

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RECYCLING AND SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting – March 10, 2020
DY High School Room #503 – 7:45am

Members Present: Co-Chairs-Jill Talladay and Carol Ewing, members; Abbi Santos. Also in attendance: Sandy Cashen, Roby Whitehouse, Jocelyn Raneo, Dawn Colton-Mund, Nicholas Carey, Jayda Davis, Victoria Snow, and Ben Wanko.

Student questions:

What does the Yarmouth Recycling Committee do and what responsibilities?

RASWAC is an advisory committee that informs the town of recycling options and considerations. The Committee is currently working on a polystyrene ban and promoting waste reduction because of costs to dispose as well as reusing instead of trashing. Articles are written by Committee. The Committee also serves as a good sounding board for distributing information to community.

What are some of the committee's short term and long term goals for reduction of waste?

The short term goal is to create Polystyrene ban while educating the community about alternatives. The long term goal is to promote waste reduction.

Have you done anything with school food service?

Not currently but would love to.

Students wanted to get rid of the Styrofoam trays go to a different alternative. They looked into cost effective alternatives and were able to switch from Styrofoam soup cups and trays to paper and there was only a minimal increase in cost. Health laws and staffing requirements prevent from reusable options. There is currently only one water station in the school. Ms. Williams made efforts to put in a composter/dehydrator in but the amount of food waste is too much to have one. Barnstable High was sponsored by the Cape Cod Challenger Club and purchased a \$20,000 composter.

Sandy mentioned that the Energy Committee should team up with RASWAC.

To help raise awareness for recycling, students teamed up to submit a bin makeover contest. Sign up and pay small fee for materials to make eye catching bins for more use. Makeover is April 9th. Up to four people. \$12 per group. The WAVE program empties the bins and they are saying that education is needed. Posters were made to help education where to recycle what. There is also a game that was created by students that runs during homeroom to help educate about recycling.

The possibility of the Committee coming back to do some education outreach was brought up.

Cape Cod CARES had educational information. It was suggested that the students attend a planning meeting for the community cleanup.

Next meeting dates: April 7, 2020 at 8:30am in Town Hall Room A