

Harvard Board of Health Meeting Minutes
Monday, October 23, 2017
Approved: November 14, 2017

BoH Members present: Libby Levison; Sharon McCarthy, Chair;

Attending: Irene Congdon, MA DEP Central Massachusetts Recycling Coordinator, Stu Sklar, Board of Selectmen, Joan Eliyesil, Harvard Press.

Ms. McCarthy called meeting to order at 2:05 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT- None.

NEW BUSINESS-

The purpose of the meeting was to allow Ms. Congdon to present information to Stu Sklar on a pay per bag system for the transfer station, as the Board of Selectmen are responsible for Transfer Station operations Ms. Congdon previously helped the BOH to update the waste hauler regulation and is the contact person for assistance with reducing waste hauling costs and increasing recycling at the transfer station. The BOH wanted to make Mr. Sklar familiar with the expertise that Ms. Congdon has to offer. Ms. Congdon presented data obtained from Mr. Kilhart, DPW Director, on the weight of waste disposed of by the transfer station. Residents of Harvard disposed of 1,952 lbs/household in 2016, based on 1327 households which have transfer station stickers. This is the 2nd highest per household waste disposal weight in 75 central Massachusetts communities. Westborough is first, however, they allow residents to dispose of furniture and other bulky items in the waste dumpsters.

Ms. Congdon presented information on waste disposal costs and how a pay per bag program operates. The fees are designed to cover operating costs and the bag costs are set to cover the tipping fees. The goal of the program is to reduce costs for residents who recycle and increase costs for those who do not recycle. Irene suggested the program be called Save Money and Reduce Trash (SMART). Irene also talked about the availability of two types of grant monies from the state: 1) to help defray the costs of transitioning to the program and 2) to cover Irene's technical assistance to help with the transition. These grant applications are due in January 2018. There was a general discussion of the way different towns have implemented the program as well as the types of cost savings Harvard could expect.

Mr. Sklar indicated he wanted Irene to make a presentation to the BOS with all the information she has collected about Harvard's transfer station costs. If the BOS endorses

the effort, the goal would be to implement for July 1, 2018. Date of Irene's presentation was tentatively scheduled for Nov. 7.

OLD BUSINESS- None

PERMITS- None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES- None

ADJOURNMENT- Ms. McCarthy moved to adjourn the meeting at 3:30 p.m.; Ms. Levison seconded. A roll call vote was taken: Ms. McCarthy, aye; Ms. Levison, aye.

***Respectfully submitted,
Sharon McCarthy, Chair***

Documents Referenced:

- *Handouts from Irene Congdon*