



CITY OF WATERTOWN
SOLID WASTE AND RECYCLING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Date: 1/31/24

Location: 124 Orchard Street or virtual

Subject: Solid Waste and Recycling Advisory Committee (SWARC) Meeting Minutes

In Attendance:

In-person: Anya, Alex, Judy,

Virtual: Leslie, Eileen R, Guests: Joan, Lise Paul, Meher, Michael Albano

Meeting Commences: 5:08 PM

Move to accept

- I. Welcome and introduction of members and visitors
- II. Actions
 - a. Approve the minutes from October, 2023 Meeting, Leslie moved to approve, Judy seconded, one change was suggested and implemented, All voted to approve 10/2023 minutes as amended
 - b. Decide on next meeting times: We will meet Weds 5:00 – 6:00 pm on Feb 28, March 20, April 24, May 22
- III. DPW updates
 - a. Present Resilient Watertown update that was given to City Council energy and environment sub-committee. Main elements from the presentation will be shared in a newsletter from Anya shortly, including specifics on tonnage reduction in the past year due in part to mattress recycling, Helpsy diverting textiles and composting now happening in all 3 elementary school cafeterias.
 - b. New city ordinance DRAFT was shared and discussed, right now it's for review only. The ordinance will change the way some large apartment buildings must

deal with their waste, right now have no responsibility for recycling and composting at this time, this ordinance will make that required going forward, so more standardized for all residents.

- c. Watertown 2030 Zero Waste Strategic Plan Draft has been presented to city manager. Goals for reducing waste by 2030 are outlined by year, with the proposed new ordinance would lay the groundwork for restructuring the regulations for which properties are included in the municipal collection program.

At our next several meetings we will be reviewing the new ordinance in more depth and how it will fit into the longer range strategic plans for meeting Massachusetts 2030 waste reduction goals and the Resilient Watertown waste reduction action items for 2030

IV. Committee member updates

- a. Eileen R will be giving a beyond plastics update to the group

Plastic updates – would like to see us do a movie showing, Mike Barrett is the biggest obstacle of the bottle bill, meetings, letter writing, lots of ideas, activist

V. Open Discussion

- a. New ideas for outreach/ programs

VI. Adjourn 6:04