

Waste Management Committee Meeting
March 11, 2020
Council Chambers
9:30 a.m.

Present

Councillor J. MacPherson, Chair
Councillor, Diane Roberts
Councillor A. Murray
N. Haverkort, Eastern Region Solid Waste Management Co-ordinator
K. O'Handley, Eastern Region Solid Waste Compliance Officer
D. Halfpenny, Engineering & Planning Administrative Assistant

Absent

S. Elliot, STFX Representative
L. McLean, Antigonish Chamber of Commerce Representative

Guest

M. Moore-Upcycling

Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.

Approval of Agenda

A motion was made and seconded, "That the Agenda for be approved. **Motion carried.**"

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made and seconded, "That the February 12, 2020 meeting minutes be approved as circulated." **Motion carried**

New Business

The Chair welcomed M. Moore to the meeting. Introductions were made around the table.

M. Moore expressed interest in creating an Upcycling event that would follow the Bulky Waste Pick Up and Care2Share events. She noted that taking materials out of the Bulky Waste and repairing and repurposing them would decrease landfill waste.

Discussion followed on finding a suitable location, how to make the event manageable. How to promote the event and determination of costs to facilitate the event. It was agreed that the event should be held for one day, feature a combination of set projects that could be completed within that day, require preregistration by participants, be promoted on social media, word of mouth and Town website, etc. Committee members suggested a maximum of 6 to 10 participants and that there be 3-4 people to assist with the upcycling program.

M. Moore provided a list of tools that she has that could be used to work on the upcycling projects and circulated photos of items that she had upcycled.

J. MacPherson, Chair explained that the Waste Management Committee doesn't have a project budget but that the Committee would support the creation of the event and would actively promote it. He stated that M. Moore should secure the location first and prepare a detailed presentation, and contact D. Wilson, Deputy about be added to the agenda to present her ideas.

to a Joint Town and County meeting.

Councillor A. Murray advised that he would be happy to be one of the volunteers providing his schedule permitted. However, he commented he would help however he could.

N. Haverkort and K. O'Handley noted that they could check with Guysborough to see if some used paint, and other materials for upcycling could be obtained for the event.

Councillor D. Roberts offered to assist M. Moore with PR efforts for the event.

Chair J. MacPherson thanked M. Moore for her presentation. Waste Committee members encouraged M. Moore to stay in touch and advise when details are completed.

Committee members agreed it was a very creative and interesting project.

Business Arising from Minutes

Care2Share

Event is scheduled April 24 & 25. Continuing efforts to promote the event.

Earth Day

N. Haverkort noted that Great NS Pick Me up will provide bags and materials to organize a Town Clean up.

Discussion followed concerning the April 22 Earth Day event being a Wednesday this year and who should be approached to participate. It was agreed that high school students, seniors groups and businesses should be provided with the opportunity to participate.

N. Haverkort noted that groups could register and pick up the bags at Town Hall and a drop off spot would need to be determined.

Dumpster Pilot Project

N. Haverkort reported that the MacLeod Group site had seen a significant decline in illegal dumping since the signage had been placed and the results will be monitored. She noted that the second sign is awaiting approval to be placed on the Royal Bank dumpster and that she expected to receive approval and have it placed later today. She commented that the signs should be made smaller to better fit the bins.

Waste By-Law

J. MacPherson reported that he had spoken to J. Lawrence regarding the final draft of the waste bylaw, J. Lawrence noted that S. Scannell is reviewing the draft and that he will advise of any necessary changes and additions such as determining where to incorporate changes for the lodging home by-law; identifying the plastic bag ban, and expansion to include the provincially banned items.

HHW New Site and Launch

J. MacPherson advises that the HHW permit approval from the Department of Environment has not been received.

Provincial Programs

N. Haverkort provided a brochure which featured the additions to the electronics recycling program. She reiterated that the enhanced program includes gaming gear, and GPS devices.

She noted that the approved businesses are placing bins for collection for the oil program. Items included are oil, oil containers, oil filters, lubricants, sprays, glycol and glycol containers. NS is the last of the provinces to create regulation so that industry would set-up the Used Oil Management Association (UOMA) program here. The gathering of waste oil she advised may still be used for burning in a waste oil furnace. The collection program will see approved sites have materials dropped off by the public and picked up by a collection service for recycling. Approved drop-off sites are available in Town, the list is located on the website (<https://ns.uoma-atlantic.com/en/>)

The materials are now banned as of March 1, 2020. Haulers are to reject these items at curbside.

N. Haverkort reported that the mercury program has ended. She explained that NSPi had been given credits to facilitate this program but that has been ended and NSPi has shut down the program. She commented that this has raised concerns by the municipalities for increased costs. She acknowledged that DivertNS would subsidize a portion of the costs. However, N. Haverkort advised a letter has been sent to the Minister of Environment expressing concerns and that there has been no response to date.

Divert NS

N. Haverkort advised that Divert NS are bringing more educational initiatives into the schools. She noted that Divert NS has enhanced its social media presence with ads focused strongly on waste reduction.

EPR Newspaper Ad

N. Haverkort advised that the newspapers had run on Feb 22 and Feb 29 2020 in the Chronicle Herald. She advised that a copy had been sent to MLAs L.Hines and R. Delorey, with no response received from either office.

She reported that industry has been working together to solve the issue with competing businesses such as Sobeys, Walmart, Superstore, and McDonald's coming together to identify what government needs to do to solve this issue. It was identified that industry needs to see a consistent program of harmonized EPR. She commented that the Deputy Minister was absent from this meeting with businesses however that the event was recorded and other officials had attended.

Review of Committee Structure

J. MacPherson, Chair advised that he is following up with to D. Wilson about the status of the change in committee structure.

Budget Items

D. Halfpenny advise that K. Proctor has assigned staff to submit information needed for budget considerations for the litter can program such as a review of the litter can types, pick up schedule and determining if all cans should be changed out to the 3 slot sorting stations.

Director of Public Works has been advised of the cost for the pilot project to add stickers to the green bin saying No Plastic. This is under review pending budgetary considerations. Discussion followed on implementing of uniform litter can program with replacement of a N. Haverkort commented that stickers for green bins that say no plastic may be another small budget item to be used as a test pilot for the residential green bins.

Butt Blitz Program

N. Haverkort reported that she will be registering individuals and groups that wish to participate having them pick up the supplies at the Antigonish Library on April 18 and upon completion of pick up of the butts the participants return them to her at the Antigonish Library.

Education and Compliance Report Compliance Officer Report

K. O' Handley circulated his reported of activities undertaken within the Town of Antigonish since February 12, 2020 Waste Management Meeting. He noted that 5 landfill inspections have been completed with 2 focusing on ICI loads, 2 StFX loads and 1 Antigonish residential load. He stated that he had also visited 5 businesses, and the bailing facility at GFL.

It was moved and seconded that the Compliance Report be accepted. **Motion carried**

Next Meeting Date

- Next Waste Meeting will be held **April 8, 2020 at 9:30 am.**

It was moved and seconded, "That the meeting be adjourned."

Motion Carried

Meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.