

Pownal Solid Waste and Recycling Committee

March 17, 2022 Meeting Minutes Approved

Members present: Will Johnston; Theresa Lofgren; Heidi Richards; Lesley Taisey; Andy Wyatt
Absent: Zac Cote
Guests: Paul Schumann, Andy O'Brien of the Select Board

1. A quorum was established. The meeting was called to order at 7:31 PM with Ms. Richards in the role of Chair. Mr. Wyatt will record minutes.
2. Mr. Wyatt provided draft minutes for the January 31, 2022 meeting. Ms. Lofgren moved to accept them as written. Ms. Richards seconded. The motion passed, with four voting in favor, and one abstention.
3. Mr. Schumann was invited to speak. He had several comments about the recently adopted Comprehensive Plan. Mr. Schumann noted that the 2006 Comprehensive Plan recommended replacement of the Central Fire Station on Elmwood Road. A more recently completed Needs Assessment delivered the same recommendation. And, once again, the 2021 Comprehensive Plan recommends replacement of the Central Fire Station on Elmwood Road. His question to this committee is "will you, as a committee review, use and act on the Comprehensive Plan". Mr. Johnston provided comment on his experience with Comprehensive Plans and that, in general, they are not always acted upon. Mr. Wyatt offered to distribute a link to the Comprehensive Plan on the Town website.
4. Ms. Richards initiated a discussion on Pownal Pride Day, in which the committee decided to promote roadside litter cleanup for collection by Casella on two Fridays: 4/22 and 4/29. Saturday 4/23 will be the day where roll-off dumpsters will be available for scrap metal collection at Mallett Hall. Mr. Johnston posed the question on how to improve participation for roadside pickup. The committee will again use a sign-up via google docs.

Ms. Lofgren will give the 'go-ahead' to the elementary school to initiate a poster-creation contest for recycling. Two winners will be selected: one from grades K-2; one from grades 3-5. The winners will be given a ride to school in a Fire Truck.

5. Ms. Richards provided an update from an ecomaine board meeting that she had just attended. The ecomaine board had just approved their budget, which was higher than usual, due to recent price inflations. She noted that there will be a meeting on Friday 3/18 from 9:30-12:30 at Cumberland Town Hall to discuss regionalization and automation of curbside waste collection. Mr. Wyatt noted that we'll need to consider aspects of transition, such as how to retire the pay-as-you-throw bags program and the acquisition of trash bins suitable for automated pickup. Regarding regionalization, Mr. Schumann added that we need to 'pick our partners well', noting that Pownal is small, and our experience in being the smallest entity in the Regional School Unit has presented some challenges. Ms. Richards collected a list of questions for Becky Taylor-Chase to take to the meeting on Friday.
6. Ms. Richards opened a discussion on a 'Community Day', planned by the Recreation Committee. scheduled for May 21, 2022. This event will be called the 'Spring Fling'.

* Zac Cote * Will Johnston * Theresa Lofgren *
* Heidi Richards * Lesley Taisey * Andy Wyatt *

Activities planned include live music, bake sale, informative committee tables, etc. Ms. Richards will invite ecomaine with hopes that they'll bring their trash-powered car and waste sorting game. Also, a fall event is planned to include a potluck meal and carved pumpkin display.

7. Mr. Wyatt initiated a discussion on budget preparation for the next fiscal year. He provided a view of current year's budget worksheet to the committee members. The budget lines (expense and revenue) were assigned to various committee members and results should be brought forward for the next meeting.
8. The committee agreed to reconvene on Wednesday, March 30 at 6:30 PM. Ms. Richards will provide an agenda beforehand.
9. Mr. Wyatt made a motion for adjournment. Mr. Johnston seconded. The motion passed with all in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:51 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Andy Wyatt