

**Waste Management Committee Meeting Minutes
December 8, 2021
Council Chambers
9:30 a.m.**

Present

Councillor, D Roberts, Chair
Councillor M Farrell
Councillor A. Murray
N. Haverkort, Eastern Region Solid Waste Management Co-ordinator
K. O'Handley, Eastern Region Solid Waste Compliance Officer
L. Crowley, Business Owner, Landlord Association.
D. Halfpenny, Engineering & Planning Administrative Assistant

Absent with regrets:

A. Starr, Business Owner
D. Campbell, StFX Representative

Call to Order

The Chair, Councillor D. Roberts called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.
Tea and coffee and light snacks were provided.

Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by M. Farrell seconded by L. Crowley to approve the December 8, 2021, agenda. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by L. Crowley and seconded by M. Farrell to approve the minutes from the October 13, 2021, meeting.

Business Arising from Minutes

Recircle

D. Roberts advised that A. Starr had provided an update on Recircle. She reported that Recircle will be launching on Monday, January 17th, 2022. She noted that a team of 8 people have been hired and that Recircle had acquired another plastic recycling company. She reported that a student task force has been created at StFX - duties include sorting and collecting waste from their residence buildings.

Waste Bylaw

D. Roberts commented that the waste bylaw will be moved to the end of the agenda.

Litter Pick Up Update

D. Roberts was pleased to report that 31 bags of waste were collected from the streets of Antigonish. She commented that the turn out of volunteers was the best to date with 27 volunteers. The event was well advertised, and the weather was good.

Councillor M. Farrell offered a big thank you to Chair D. Roberts for her leadership in organizing the event.

Cigarette Butts

D. Roberts, Chair advised that the mayor would be following up with local liquor establishment to discuss cigarette butt disposal.

Request of Councillor M. Farrell

M. Farrell noted other litter from patrons goes hand in hand with the cigarette butt disposal issue, perhaps PSA could be developed to promote litter awareness for business owners to encourage them to monitor their property weekly.

New Business

CACL Project Update

N. Haverstock reported that the CACL has obtained a grant and have purchased a seacan storage unit to collect wood, reusable windows, and good material from contractors who are disposing of items at the Beech Hill Landfill site. The seacan will be painted to identify that it is the property of CACL. Reusable items could be placed on an online auction with proceeds going to the CACL programs. M. Farrell commented that the CACL workers will gain skills through the sorting of items, upcycling of items in the workshop, etc. N. Haverkort added, the program will divert items from the landfill while providing materials for the workers to create new items or repurpose old items.

N. Haverkort advised she will provide updates as the project gets off the ground.

Community Bin Funding

N. Haverkort circulated a copy of the application and criteria for community groups that are eligible to apply to funding to purchase sorting bins. She encouraged committee members to share the information with any community groups that may wish to purchase the bins such as Kinsmen, Lions, Knights, Church groups, Mosque group, etc.

N. Haverkort advised that a different program. Municipal Approved Programs (MAP) is available to assist municipalities with purchasing sorting stations.

D. Roberts commented that the Community Enhancement Committee has been tasked with creating a cohesive plan to look at the design of any replacement waste cans.

Councillor A. Murray advised that the Community Enhancement Committee has been looking at

all new initiatives through the lens of potential consolidation of the area. He explained that based on input from other communities that have formed a regional government, it was noted that a new logo was created. He stated that his committee members have chosen to be mindful of the future. He noted that one example is the self-watering containers that been ordered in a neutral color which will then have sticker added of the Town logo. Then, if a regional government is created, the containers can be updated with the new logo avoiding costly replacement of items.

Councillor A. Murray advised that his committee will have the waste cans on the agenda for the new year and he will report back to waste management with any updates.

Mobius Award Champion

D. Roberts commented that at the Eastern Solid Waste Management Meeting she had heard some exciting news about a local initiative that had won an award. She asked N. Haverkort to share the details.

N. Haverkort noted that Mobius Awards are given out in different categories to individuals, groups or institutions that make a difference to a community by diverting waste. She was pleased to report that the St Martha's Regional Hospital OR Green Team have been acknowledged for doing some amazing work. She noted since 2010 the Green Team has worked hard to divert waste created by the OR which is about a third of the total waste for the hospital. The sterile blue textile is a lot of the overall volume, with no option for it in the regular recycling they eventual found an option to divert the material in a safe manner. N. Haverkort explained the process where some of the textile has been sent to a processing facility where it was incorporated with other materials to create plastic lumber. N. Haverkort will share the Dr. Nova Scotia article with Committee. There was discussion on a possible Council presentation in the future.

Education and Compliance Report

Compliance Officer Report - K. O' Handley reported that he has been busy with landfill inspections and that he has completed nine inspections since Oct 13, 2021. (Antigonish Town ICI-2 inspections, STFX 3 and 3 organics, and Antigonish residential load 1 inspection).

It was noted that one of the StFX inspections identified two black bags each of which contained Sharps. He advised that the individuals that had placed the sharps in the bags had been identified and that STFX had been alerted that action was required. One individual was a repeat offender and the second suspected to be a nursing student was to receive education on how to properly dispose of sharps.

N. Haverkort stated that follow up with the STFX nursing coordinator will be forthcoming to ensure that the students are informed about proper needle disposal.

K. O' Handley noted that he had followed up on a complaint from an Antigonish business regarding illegal dumping and that an individual had been caught and received a warning.

K. O'Handley advised that there may be need to issue a summary offense penalty to two

business in Town. Next steps have been discussed with Town By-law as the property owner did not pick up the registered letters which identified the offense with expectations to remedy.

Motion was made and seconded to accept the Education and Compliance Report.
Motion Carried.

Antigonish Landlords Association Report

L. Crowley reported that the Antigonish Landlords Association has become a registered association. He noted that President J. Sullivan and Vice President R. MacGillivray have been working closely with various landlords to review Schedule B's from landlords and have drafted a generic Schedule B that will be sent to membership for review and feedback. He advised it includes mention of waste sorting, town waste bylaws and the smartphone app link. He noted that they are also working closely with StFX, RCMP and local Town and County municipalities on the Covid-19 pandemic measures and good neighbours guide. He stated that Ninian's Cozy Study Café for students will be held on Thursday, Dec 9 and Wednesday, Dec 15 at St Ninians place from 5-10 p.m. where a warm bowl of soup and biscuits will be provided to students as while they study.

L. Crowley advised that the landlords questioned who should receive fines concerning waste violations. The bylaw says both the landlord and tenant are responsible. He relayed the frustration that landlords have with tenants that consistently, despite attempts to educate them, continue to violate the bylaw and the fine being sent to the landlord. The landlords wanted to know if there is a way to have the fine listed to both the landlord and the tenant.

Councillor M. Farrell commented that the Landlords are small business owners and therefore are required as part of their business model to educate their tenants to the Waste bylaw requirements and could potentially add a clause to the Schedule B of their lease agreement to identify the repercussions of not following the rules which result in a fine to the landlord or choosing not to renew a lease to a bad tenant.

D. Roberts asked to leave the room to invite S. Scannell, Director of Community Involvement into the meeting to get his input on the question.

S. Scannell enter the meeting at 10:56 a.m.

S. Scannell stated that the Town of Antigonish is only authorized to deal with the landowner. He commented that the Antigonish Landlords Association may want to seek legal advice as to how to address this issue in their schedule B. He noted that the tenancy board may be able to provide some incite as to what can be included in the schedule B.

S. Scannell provided his business card to Lance to share with the Antigonish Landlords Association should they have any further questions.

S. Scannell left the meeting at 11:00 a.m.

L. Crowley shared some ideas and thoughts that the Antigonish Landlords Association had on improving tenants sorting habits:

1. They suggested that the Town source and sell recommended interior bins for recycling

and waste.

Discussion followed on diversity of needs of individual rental properties to facilitate one type of bins, lack of space for the Town to house interior bins, and consideration of the Antigonish Landlords Association sourcing type of interior bins for their rental businesses and doing a group buy. Checking out DivertNS best practices for sorting set up.

2. Refrigerator magnets as advertising material to promote the sorting app and sorting guides.
3. Sorting guides attached to every lease.
4. Have mention of the Town's Waste management bylaw sorting in each lease schedule B.

Next Meeting Date

Next Waste Meeting Wednesday, January 19, 2022 to account for the reopening after Christmas Break.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting. Motion Carried,

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.