

**Mid-Coast Waste Watch  
Meeting Minutes  
March 16, 2017**

Attendance: Josh Gerritsen, Beth Kwiatkowski, Alison McKellar, Marci Annis Casas, Jim Guerra, David Edwards, Tom Ford,  
Absent Members: Anna Sideris, Maggie Timmermann

**Mission Statement:** A mission statement was approved by general consensus to read:

The mission of the Mid-Coast Waste Watch Committee is to recommend, develop and facilitate programs which promote ever increasing recycling, waste reduction and sustainable management of resources.

**MCSWC Board Approval:** Members are invited to attend the MCSWC Board of Directors Meeting on March 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 PM in the Washington Street Conference Room at the Camden Town Office. A formal proposal for the Board to sanction the Mid-Coast Waste Watch Committee is on the agenda.

**Swap Shop:** Gerritsen opened the discussion on the Swap Shop. Guerra will contact the swap shop staff and ask that they come to the next committee on the 23<sup>rd</sup> for a meeting to discuss suggested changes and to coordinate assistance from the Waste Watch Committee for the coming season. He will also get 15 minute parking signs from the DPW if available. The Committee decided to meet on Saturday, March 25<sup>th</sup> at 10 AM to view the layout of the current swap shop "space" and to get a feel as to how busy the facility is even in the early spring and what other signage might be helpful. Current hours of operation are 10am to 2pm, Tuesday through Friday and several members of the WWC will be volunteering to work with the current staff to familiarize themselves with the shop. This will help with staff with concerns about needing an extra person to watch "hovering" that occurs when new items arrive. WWC members will be checking schedules and solidifying times that might work to assist with this effort. A public relations campaign will be talked about to increase donations to the Swap Shop. A plan for inviting interested volunteers from the survey will begin to take shape.

**High School Visit:** McKellar informed the group that the "green week" talks were postponed due to the recent snowstorm costing school days. She will keep the group informed on any new information.

**Survey:** It takes time to assimilate the survey information and McKellar asked that the membership take time before the next meeting to review survey responses and glean useful information or themes that may appear in the survey comments. These subjects could begin to be used for planning future information or action formats for WWC and MCSW.

**Compost Demonstration & Education Area:** Guerra will be contacting Mark King of the DEP to see if he is available for an education seminar on composting. Guerra will also provide some information on sample bins for use in our area. This topic was tabled until a later meeting.

**Non-agenda items:**

Casas spoke about the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Trash Pickup event to happen in Rockport on April 28 from 12-5 & Saturday, April 29<sup>th</sup> from 8-12. This event is planned under the Keep Rockport Beautiful Committee to pick up roadside trash bi-annually. McKellar added Camden is considering a similar event to be held in April and will network with Rockport to develop the plan.

McKellar spoke about the Camden Conservation Commission that is working on developing a 35 page Comprehensive Stewardship Guide that will instruct on topics such as recycling, storm water and use of lawn chemicals and the goal is to make it available to town citizens who would like one. It is a large undertaking but the project is moving along quickly.

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Gerritsen will be attending the 2017 Maine Sustainability & Water Conference on Thursday, March 30th at the Augusta Civic Center. The conference is put on by the Senator George J. Mitchell Center at the University of Maine with a primary focus on one of Maine's central challenges– the future of its water resources. The conference will cover a wide range of sustainability challenges facing Maine, including issues related to climate change, energy futures, agriculture, forestry, fisheries, tourism, and municipal planning.

**FUTURE TOPICS:**

Tabulation of the Residential Survey Results  
Chris Wolfe Show scheduling  
Business Survey

**NEXT MEETING:**

March 23th, 2017      12:30 PM      Richardson Room – Rockport Town Office