

Recycling Task Force [L]  
[SEP]

Monday November 6, 2017 [L]  
[SEP]

11:30 a.m. [L]  
[SEP] Town Hall [L]  
[SEP]

Draft Minutes

1. Members Present: L. Robertson, Chris Stroeck, Liz McGowen and Shane Broadwater.

Absent: None

Meeting called to order at 11:31 a.m. by L. Robertson.

2. Approval of Minutes: **There were no minutes to approve.**

3. Visitors: None

3a. Visitor's Comments - are logged in where applicable.

4. Introduction of members:

a. Everyone went around the table and introduced themselves and gave a brief history.

5. Work done to date: Survey, informal meeting

C. Stroeck – we created a survey for all of the businesses within the corporate limits. The surveys

were hand delivered, a few were emailed, asking if they recycled, and how they felt about a possible ban on Styrofoam and plastic bags. We received only a handful back, 5-7. Most were in favor as long as they had a viable alternative.

We also had an informal meeting that was held at Mellow Moods in the evening. We made a point of inviting each business. There were 3 members of the Farmer's Market, and a council member arrived late. The information was shared as to alternatives from Phil, owner of Mellow Moods. The Farmer's Market group were very receptive to switching from plastic bags to a biodegradable bag.

## 6. Stats: from Public Works and Apple Valley

We have obtained the latest recycling reports from Public Works and Apple Valley. They both show a drop in tonnage to Apple Valley. Apple Valley stopped taking glass April 1, 2017.

## 7. Styrofoam and plastic bags- pros and cons

Apple Valley Recycling has called these two items "the devil". They both bind up their machines. Styrofoam is cheap. It takes upwards of 500 years to breakdown. Once hot food is placed in it, the chemicals from the

box start to leach into the food. Plastic bags are cheap. They take upwards of 10-1000 years to breakdown depending on where they end up. They blow around and end up in our trees, waterways, and harm wildlife. There are now many alternatives to both.

8. Discuss including plastic straws to ban.

Many cities have included plastic straws in their bans as straws are deadly to wildlife. S. Broadwater stated that he wants to ban straws but cannot find an alternative to his large straws he uses for his Bubble Tea.

We want to look at a date for a public meeting in December.

**L. Robertson – if there are no objections, the meeting is adjourned at 12:00 pm. No objections noted. Minutes respectfully submitted by L. Robertson.**