

Town of La Pointe
Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) Work Group
Tuesday, December 3, 2019
9:00 a.m. at Town Hall
Minutes

Members present: Michael Childers, Gwen Smith Patterson and Joe Scarry
Members present via speakerphone: Norm Castle and Chuck Irvine
Members absent: ~~Joe Scarry~~, Michael Collins and Michael Brenna
Staff present: Lisa Potswald, Town Administrator
Public present: None

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

The MRF Work Group meeting was called to order by M. Childers, Chair on Tuesday, December 3, 2019 at 9:04 a.m. A quorum of the committee is present as shown by members listed above.

2. Public Comment

None

3. Minutes of the following MRF Work Group meeting to be considered for approval:

A. November 19, 2019

N. Castle asked to have the ideas talked about at the last meeting (wheel tax, landfill, ferry contribution, Bayfield coordination, Ted & Carey need to be involved) added to the minutes. Minutes will be amended and added to next agenda for approval.

4. General Updates and comments from Work Group members, including future meeting schedule planning.

- J. Scarry will be working on the financial analysis part of this process. He stated his background is not in material recovery facilities but in business costing/pricing.
- J. Scarry asked what is expected of this group
 - This group will meet bi-weekly meetings for first 3 months then weekly or sooner if needed.
 - The Town Board is expecting this work group to present options to them within 6 months from their first meeting of 11/19/2019, not to recommend a particular outcome.
 - M. Childers stated the report they present to the Town Board will have; financial options including the status quo and measuring the townspeople thoughts on recycling.
 - M. Childers thought the group should give the Town Board an overview of their progress to see if they have any concern about the direction they are laying out.
- C. Irving gave an overview of his background in recycling.
- General discussion regarding timeline
 - Distribute survey by Feb. 1

- General Discussion on survey questions.
 - M. Childers will work with G. Smith Patterson to reach out to the Great Lakes Island Alliance (GLIA) Island Communities for guidance.
 - List options instead of general what do you think we should do.
 - Ask qualitative questions regarding economic values, lifestyle, etc. instead of a yes or no questions
 - Land the volume of recyclables produced along with what we do with it.
 - Input needs to be from year-round and summer residents, possibly use tax roll and voter registration list for mailing.
 - Survey distribution ideas; community bulletin board, Facebook, copies at post office and town hall, mailing.
 - Survey should be front loaded with a range of opinions gathered from interviewing people who have heard these opinions.
 - The scope of this project needs to be all waste, not just recyclables.
- N. Castle points;
 - Landfill; location options, stabilizing materials
 - Bayfield Coordination; combing materials and share shipping costs
 - Ted must be at meetings
 - Report by UW Oshkosh done for the love of the earth, Tetra Tech done for the love of money.
 - Wheel tax needs to be explored further
 - Madeline Island Ferry Line (MIFL) contribution
 - Vehicle recycling options
- J. Scarry thoughts;
 - Tetra Tech report is a start at getting our arms around this
 - Find income stream opportunities
 - Sensitivity Analysis; look at assumptions and ask the questions, what might change as a result of this
 - Is the potential to change people's behavior a part of this endeavor?
- M. Childers:
 - Recommending changes outside the management of the MRF
 - Ban single use plastic bags
- General discussion on contamination of recyclables.
- N. Castle tasks:
 - Reach out to Ted to encourage his involvement in this group
 - Look into automobile recyclers in the area

A. Industrial Market Pricing – Chuck Irvine

No discussion

5. Public Comment

None

6. Set Next Meeting Agenda and Date

Lisa will distribute a meeting calendar for the bi-weekly meetings.

Next meeting scheduled for Tuesday, December 17, 2019 at 9 a.m.

7. Adjourn

Motion by N. Castle, second by C. Irvine to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

Minutes taken from recorder and respectfully submitted by Dorgene Goetsch, Clerical Assistant.
Minutes approved as presented December 17, 2019. Dorgene Goetsch, Clerical Assistant.