



Sustainability Committee
SPECIAL MEETING

Minutes
August 6, 2018
7pm – Municipal Annex, Room C

Attendance:

Phil LeBlanc, Joanne Petersen, Christine Maher, Emily Roy, Mark Broski, Eric Daniels, Joan Strawson

Aldermen:

Guests: Annmarie Creamer, Frederick County Recycling Outreach Program Analyst

1. Annmarie Creamer provided background on the County's recycling program. There are currently about 80,000 eligible participants. Contractors provide the pickup and sorting services. Most of what we recycle went overseas, but now China, our primary buyer, is no longer taking our contaminated recycling.

The County is reviewing its contract with the sorting center. The contractor may restrict some materials, such as plastic bags, which are currently accepted.

Committee members asked what our contamination levels were and how to target individuals who are doing it. Creamer indicated that it was difficult because the recycling was picked up, taken to the transfer station where it mingles with other recyclables, then gets loaded into trucks and hauled to the sorting facility where it mingles with recyclables from other jurisdictions.

2. Discussing Potential Project Partnership with County

- a. Available funding is minimal, but there is a small amount to work with. Creamer indicated that the Committee could work on a project proposal that she could take to her supervisors to request matching funds. The City also has a small amount of money set aside for recycling education.
- b. The target audience still needs to be clarified.
- c. Target dates are to have a strong project in place by end of 2018 if we will include students and hope to launch for Earth Day.
- d. The Committee brainstormed a few ideas for what a project might look like, including a "Recycle These 5 Things," putting stickers on bins, putting tags on bins that say "oops" or "good job," recycling sculpture competition, and door hangers. The Committee did not decide on a specific project, but will discuss at the regular August meeting.