Unity Area Regional Recycling Center

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March 16, 2023

1. <u>Bring Meeting to Order</u>: Meeting brought to order at 7:03 a ZOOM meeting conducted by Acting Chair - Phil Bloomstein

2. Board Members and Alternates Present:

Diana Hauser (Unity) Phil Bloomstein (Freedom)

Michael Berry Thorndike)

Greg Falzetta (Thorndike-ALT)

Jenny Tibbetts (Jackson) Kip Penney (Knox)

Beth Soucie (Unity)

Don Pendleton (Dixmont-ALT)

Eleanor MacMackin (Freedom-ALT)

Paige Zeigler (Montville)

Jeff Reynolds (UARRC Staff)

*Paige arrived late & Don left early

3. Board Members and Alternates Absent:

Ross Nason (Dixmont) Sharon Hibbard (Montville-ALT)

Robert Hogg (Troy)

4. Agenda Adjustments:

Will ZOOM meetings continue?

5. Approve February 16, 2023 Minutes:

A Motion was made, Seconded & Approved

6. Manager's Report:

Shipped 23 bales of plastic on 3/8/23. Breaks down to 13 bales of #1 for \$910.44, 7 bales of #2 colored for \$211.50. A total of \$5,656.34 before trucking and coop fees are taken out.

OCC is up to \$100.00 a ton, which is a good rebound

Customer traffic has been down, which follows a trend through the end of February into the first week of March. Those numbers are starting to rebound nicely with **196** customers last week.

We will be taking the glass crusher apart next week to replace the hammers.

We have finally worn out the original hammers in the machine, which gave us approximately 3 times the lifespan the company suggests.

* An incident showed battery parts in the glass crusher from batteries placed in bottles for storage. It is a safety hazard. More oversight, public education and

signage is needed.

7. Personnel Committee Report:

No progress in creating personnel policies that are easily accessible.

Files are primarily electronic and need to be downloaded and collated and put into printed format for easy access. Many 'files' need to be reviewed and updated.

A meeting of the Personnel Committee and any interested Board members is scheduled for Thursday, March 23 at 10:00 a.m. at the Center.

8. Chair Report:

At the next meeting in April (April 20) election of officers will occur.

Please look at the BYLAWS for the UARRC that Michael distributed. It shows the duties/responsibilities of each officer.

9. Website Update:

Jenny is monitoring the website - keeping things current.

She asks that if there are weather or medical reasons for closing the Center, Jeff and/or Steve notify her immediately so she can post the closure.

10. Goal & Mission Statement:

Much discussion. Many revisions. Phil was able to post on the screen different wordings and different revisions. That was very helpful.

The final revision states:

The Unity Area Regional Recycling Center is a multi-town, community-sponsored operation that provides a facility for recyclable materials.

We strive to advise and educate our communities about the challenges and benefits of reducing, recycling and reusing.

A Motion was Made, Seconded and Approved to accept this statement.

11. Common Ground Fair Information:

Diana has received information about an ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS EXHIBITOR APPLICATION for the next Common Ground Fair In September.

The application is due April 7th and will cost \$118.00. This amount includes a \$10.00 application fee and \$108.00 fee for a 8' x 10' non-profit space. Space is under cover. 3 admission passes are available daily for volunteers.

Discussion included our placement at last year's Fair, educational opportunities and visibility for the UARRC.

A Motion was made, Seconded and Approved to allow Diana to enter the application to MOFGA.

Reimbursement (to Diana) will be made after said application is made and accepted.

12. <u>Comments</u>: Michael expressed thanks and recognition to Greg and Eleanor for their interest, volunteering and adherence to voting rules as Alternates.

13. <u>Wrap-Up</u>:

Greg commented on the Strategic Plan. Do we want to do a Plan based on calendar year or fiscal year?

DEP grants closed March 7. No news as of yet if there are any more grant opportunities this year.

Reflective paint industry uses glass in manufacturing their product. Perhaps look into this as an outlet for our crushed glass. *A comment was made indicating that the crushed glass used was ground much, mush finer than ours. But worth a look.

ZOOM or Warehouse for next month's meeting? A very short discussion decided to stay with ZOOM, at least for April.

14. Adjournment:

Motion made to Adjourn, Seconded & Approved to adjourn at 8:31

15. Minutes Submitted:

Diana Hauser (Unity) UARRC Secretary