SAC Plastic Bag Reduction Subcommittee Meeting

December 5, 2018

Present: Terri Union, Evan Michaeli, Elizabeth Michaeli, Jena Gibson, Heather Ross, Chuck Kabat, Dave Ward, Ginny LeClair, Emily Walton, Anne Heller

1. What is our goal?
   1. Focus on plastic bags alone
      1. Other plastics, specifically plastic straws, and styrofoam are problematic, but we don’t want to hit businesses too hard all at once
      2. Keep a narrow focus
      3. Easier to figure out enforcement
   2. Fall Town Meeting seems most realistic
2. Process
   1. Figuring out enforcement
      1. Jim Sullivan, Code Enforcement Officer, could be a possibility
   2. Objection planning
      1. Pinpointing detailed objection that can be approached and discussed
      2. Will stores stop providing plastic bag recycling if they stop using plastic bags? How do we address this?
   3. Building support
      1. Meeting with different boards in town
         1. Get on agenda
         2. Detailed powerpoint presentation (specific to Dedham, though we can use a lot from the Framingham presentation)
         3. Have bylaw on hand to present and collect feedback to adapt as necessary
      2. Utilize Mass Green Network and Clean Ocean Access for resources
      3. Reach out to individual Town Meeting members
      4. Leverage community organizations like Rotary/others, to inform, educate, build support
      5. 1-page fact sheet
      6. Build a help-guide for small businesses
      7. Making reusable bags accessible
         1. Collaborate with Chamber of Commerce to provide free reusable bags with advertisements on them
         2. Event to turn old t-shirts into reusable bags
         3. Fundraisers for local groups
   4. Presenting at Finance and Warrant Committee meeting and at Town Meeting
3. Bylaw
   1. Regulate everyone, regardless of type of business or size
   2. 6-month timeline
   3. Draft to be shared over email prior to next meeting
4. Next steps
   1. Coordinate over email prior to next meeting
   2. Meeting again in January
   3. Emily:
      1. Share list of subcommittee members with contact
      2. Send out sample bylaw for review
   4. Chuck:
      1. Initial objection questions