

Memorandum

To: Select Board

From: Recycling Committee

Date: 2-6-2019

At its January 17, 2019 meeting ... at which a quorum was present ... the Recycling Committee voted unanimously to change its name and update its mission. Subsequent to the meeting, we discussed by email the idea of increasing our size from 8 to 10 members.

As with many aspects of environmental management and stewardship, the segment of solid waste management and solid waste best practices have evolved significantly, and continue to do so. As a Committee of the Town, we feel it crucial that we expand Town's residents' understanding of the impact of how we deal with our own solid waste. An example might be that we treat our household food scraps with similar rationale as dealing with glass and plastic food containers or scrap paper and cardboard in your home. Food scraps need to be recycled! Another might be thinking about what to do with a household item that you no longer functions or that you longer need. What are the options for re-purpose, repair or recycle.

Our goal is for Arlington residents and businesses to be more broadly engaged in the notion of solid waste responsibility, and to strive for continuous reduction in what the Town pays to haul and transport to an incineration facility.

Larry Slotnick, co-chair

Priya Sankalia, co-chair

Draft of Revised Bylaw for Recycling Committee - Town Meeting 2019

ARTICLE 7: Zero Waste Advisory Committee

Section 1. Membership

There shall be a Zero Waste Advisory Committee to be appointed by the Moderator that replaces the Recycling Committee. The committee shall consist of the Town Manager or his or her designee, and up to 10 members to be selected from the registered voters of the Town. All reappointments shall be for 3 years. Members shall serve until their successors are appointed and qualified.

Section 2. Purpose and Mission

The Zero Waste Advisory Committee provides education and support to residential households, property managers, and businesses to promote programs that reduce and ultimately eliminate the need for incineration-based waste disposal. This can be achieved through recovery of valuable commodities (recycling and composting) and reduction of what is not reusable by finding alternatives to both non-recyclable packaging and non-recyclable consumed materials and products.

Among other actions, the Zero Waste Advisory Committee shall coordinate with the Town's DPW Recycling Coordinator to 1) better understand regional trends in waste reduction and diversion; which would include usage pricing for trash, bans of pernicious materials, and promotion of alternatives; 2) engage in two-way dialog with residents on complicated issues such as blue-bin contamination, food scrap recycling, what are recyclable textiles, and the packaging glut created by the online economy; and 3) increase the public's awareness of Arlington's out-of-pocket costs for waste hauling, sorting and incineration services, while providing ongoing education about opportunities to reduce, reuse, refuse, repair, re-purpose, and reimagine "waste."

(to replace the bylaw shown below)

ARTICLE 7: **RECYCLING COMMITTEE** ART. 72, ATM, 5/1/91

Section 1. Membership ART. 27, A.T.M., 5/1/95

There shall be an Arlington Recycling Committee to be appointed by the Moderator. The committee shall consist of 9 persons. The committee shall consist of the Town Manager or his or her designee, and 8 members to be selected from the registered voters of the town. The terms of appointment to the committee initially shall be 3 members appointed for 3 years, 3 members appointed for 2 years, and 3 members appointed for 1 year. All reappointments upon the expiration of the original term of appointment shall be for 3 years. Members shall serve until their successors are appointed and qualified.

Section 2. Purpose and Mission

The mission of the Recycling Committee is to advise the Town of opportunities to improve and expand recycling in the Town, to educate and advocate recycling, source reduction and reuse of

waste to the citizens, offices and businesses of the Town, and to conduct research and programs to increase participation in recycling, composting, and proper disposal of waste.

Among other actions, the Recycling Committee should monitor the activity of the trash and recycling contractor and report any problem areas to the Director of Public Works, monitor collection of white paper in the Town for recycling, manage collections of household hazardous waste and inform residents of non-toxic alternatives to hazardous substances, and publicize the benefits of and opportunities for recycling and composting of waste in Arlington.

Section 3. Cost Effectiveness

In carrying out this mission, the Committee shall ensure that its recommendations are cost effective (or will become cost effective with sufficient participation), or are necessary to comply with state and federal regulations.
