DRAFT MINUTES

City of Cambridge Recycling Advisory Committee

Council Chambers, City Hall, 795 Mass. Ave.

March 14, 2018

Minutes taken by Kristen Watkins

**Members present:** Ilana Bebchick, Joel Dashnaw, Martha Henry, Susy Jones, Debby Knight, Janet Mosley, Michael Papas, Anne Sherman, Meera Singh, Quinten Steenhuis, Matthew St. Onge, Kristen Watkins

**Members absent:** Debby Galef, Rob Gogan, Laura Nichols, Mary Verhage

**Staff:** Michael Orr, Meryl Brott

**Members of the Public:** Pat Richmond, Helen Snively

        Housekeeping

o   March Minutes approved

o   No public comment

        City Updates

o   Status of curbside compost expansion

  Bins will start to be delivered in about two weeks, will have a door-to-door firm going around and knocking on doors during roll out as well

  Looking for volunteers March 30th – April 4th for distributing kitchen pails and bringing bins closer to doors

        Looking for help Thursday (East Cambridge) and Friday (Cambridgeport)

  Everything has been delivered, stored in Allston right now, 1.6 million compostable bags delivered

  Getting lots of good traction from ads at Hubway stations, T/bus ads

  Composting page is now #9 on the City of Cambridge website!

  Postcards have been mailed, Scout Cambridge did a nice article

  Next week, will be adding truck wraps on DPW trucks

  Have talked to over 1,000 residents so far!

  Some pilot participants are on DPW’s contact list for outreach and trying to get them more involved

        Maybe worth inviting a few to a future RAC meeting

  Clarification: compost that is available to residents is from composted yard waste, not the food waste slurry

  Are we interested in pilot program for larger buildings?

        Generally, have found people at tabling events to be excited about participating even if it required bringing to the drop-off site

        City isn’t thinking about piloting with larger buildings yet, focusing on the 20k that will be rolled out in this next push. There are 7k more in the pool that are larger than 12 units

        Could we do more to target all the large buildings that will be opening in the next few months?

o   Potentially, many are not

o   Strategy currently is to build up a culture of composting in the city and make sure that it becomes engrained in Cambridge to compost

  Have we been able to add any additional dropoff sites?

        Been hard to find places that are interested in participating, given rodent concerns

o   Get Rid of It Right Tool

§  Over 9,000 unique searches so far – highest item is mattresses

§  Getting lots of good metrics on what people are confused about, what ?

o   Open Houses

  March 20th (Tobin, 6-7pm), 24th (Main Branch Library, 11:30am), 27th (Kennedy Longfellow, 6-7pm)

  Marketed via social media, postcards

  Would be great if RAC could share on Nextdoor in our  neighborhoods

o   Misc

  Waste Management/Save That Stuff Tour on April 25th

  Interest in seeing the digester

        Discussion Topics

        Closing