

Recycling and Waste Disposal Committee
Meeting Minutes
December 9, 2015

PRESENT: Pat Bracken; Chairman, Ellen Cabral, and Chris Kowalski (absent R. Nugent)

Guests: Penny Williams, (Tri Town News), Emily Reschberger, Budget Committee

MINUTES

The minutes from November 4, 2015 were approved by voice vote.

Old Business

The Committee reviewed the statistics for the year and noted that the recycling numbers for 2016 need to get moving again. They discussed methods to get the word out for recycling. Mrs. Reschberger suggested working with scouts for a paper drive or can drive. She thought the Girl Scouts would be a good place to contact whereas they run a successful cookie drive every year. Ms. Cabral mentioned that she needs to get the social media going as well. They discussed the viable channels to reach people. She noted that she was part of the "Hampstead Mother's Group". She also suggested that the Selectmen announce the upcoming holiday season and to remind people that a lot of Christmas trash is actually recycling. They discussed composting and possibly doing something on Earth Day. The Garden Club is due to have their Bi-annual sale this year and maybe something could be done for composting with them.

Ms. Cabral asked if the committee was interested in doing a 'garbage guerilla' day again. They discussed the various age groups and what works best. Ms. Williams suggested working with the Middle School on their STEAM program (Science, Technology etc.) Mr. Bracken suggested that they work with a large corporation such as Pepsi and see if there is anything they do or classes they teach. Ms. Cabral stated that the focus should be in the schools and that she would contact the Assistant Principal at the Central School (Mrs. Mariano) and that maybe there was a way to piggyback on a program already in place for the year.

2016 Budget

In a previous email to the members it was decided that additional hours needed to be added to the Kent Farm salary line to cover for the busy days. It was noted that there was a lot of traffic and activity in November for the last bulk day. There were questions about whether or not the staff was able to control who was coming in, and what they were bringing in. It was stated by the staff that worked that day that there was a lot of demolition that came in along with a lot of vehicles coming in with trailers. There will need to be education on ways to dispose of demolition and to stop taking them at the transfer station. Mr. Bracken noted that when he reviewed the actual tonnage costs for the November collection, they didn't really show a significant amount increase and that maybe part of the issue was that people all came at the same time frame. They discussed putting the additional hours at 16 hours to be determined by the Dept. Head. The current budget for bulk disposal is at \$31,000 and they only budgeted for \$30,000 for 2016. Mr. Bracken suggested that it be brought up to \$35,000 to account for the actuals for 2015 and the anticipated increase in tonnage for 2016 and growth. The committee discussed the reason for the increase in the tonnage and one of the issues could be the current turnover in housing.

Mr. Bracken mentioned that he spoke with DES last week regarding landfills and was told that nothing new has opened up in any community and that it takes millions of dollars to do so. IT would require site plan, engineer study and lining it etc. He also reported that he spoke with Berlin and they have a \$800,000 budget. They were contacted because they are similar in size to Hampstead.

New Business

There was none this evening.

Motion to adjourn at 9:21 pm was made by Mr. Kowalski and seconded by Mr. Cabral and passed 3-0.

NEXT MEETING

January 13, 2016 at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tina Harrington,
Recording Secretary