

Recycling and Waste Disposal Committee
Meeting Minutes
July 13, 2016

PRESENT; Ellen Cabral, R. Nugent, C. Kowalski, C. Cipriano, and P. Wentworth

Guests: P. Lindquist

MINUTES

The minutes from June 8, 2016 were approved by voice vote.

Old Business

2016-2017 Flyers went out towards the end of June. It was noted by one of the members that they heard some people with Post Office boxes and those that had mail on hold did not receive the flyer. Mr. Kowalski noted that he did receive his to his post office box.

Mr. Nugent suggested putting some flyers on the counters at the two post offices for those that didn't receive one.

Ms. Cabral noted that the sessions at the library have been set for 6:30 on August 1st, September 20th and October 12th. The next scheduled meeting for the committee is October 12th so it was agreed to hold that meeting at the library following the presentation. There survey was included into the flyer and it was agreed that a winner for a compost bin will be drawn from those that respond to the survey and those that attend the sessions at the library. The winner will be chosen following the October 12th session. Ms. Cabral stated that she will advertise on the Facebook page some of the information, but not until the website for the committee's page has been updated. Ms. Cabral noted that in the sessions she has a powerpoint presentation and will talk about composting but overall the theme will be "ways to reduce trash".

Garbage Guerilla Recap- There was a press release and the report to the Central School regarding their assessment by the NRRRA for each member. There were recommendation made to the Central School and there was discussion about composting. The committee discussed the ability to do composting at the Central School because it would be a lot more than just a compost bin that we have available for sale. Ms. Cabral will follow up with Principal Collins and the new food service company and see what the plans are for composting. Mr. Kowalski emphasized the need to get the organics out of the waste stream. He suggested that a compost pick up might be something that would work for the school. Ms. Cabral stated that there is a school in Allenstown that has started composting and was working the NRRRA School Recycling Club. She thought that might be the best avenue for the Central School as well. She also noted that during the assessment it was noted that there was a lot of contamination in the recycling such as straws. She will work with Waste Management (the schools trash vendor) to get labels for the bins showing what is recyclable to make the sorting a better process.

New Business

Kent Farm Transfer Station-The tipping fee for the month of June was down from prior years. The total to date for the first three months is 95 tons which is down 5 tons at the same point in 2015. Based on the tonnage, it was felt there was no need to go back to the Selectmen asking for the enforcement of the construction debris.

Mr. Nugent brought up his concern regarding cardboard. He noted that there are people that bring cardboard to the transfer station. It is not currently recycled there so the people are told they could bring it to the town garage and put it in the recycling container. There are those that chose to put it into the roll-off container or into the packer. He wanted to know what alternatives there were to recycle it. Mr. Kowalski pointed out that there is no cost to putting it out on the

curb as part of the curbside recycling. Mrs. Harrington will look at the various costs and options to recycle the cardboard.

The committee discussed some issues with the transfer station. One of the issues is there is no clear point of contact to give people directions at the station. This sometimes bogs things down. There was a suggestion by Mr. Wentworth to come up with a plan for the transfer station and maybe a map. The map of the area showing where the item is disposed could be given out when the permit is purchased and this may help people stacking their cars to make the various stops at the transfer station more efficient. Redirecting the staff so that each station is manned would also be help suggested Mr. Wentworth. It was noted that having one person at the beginning giving directions and collecting the coupons would work. The committee noted that they did budget for 4 hours for the busiest months for a part time person to work. They asked why this hasn't happened yet. Mrs. Harrington reported that Mr. Harms had a hard time getting the help he needed for the grounds work and they are allowed only 35 hours per week. She will contact Mr. Harms and see what could be done about having that part time person there. Overall it was agreed that there needs to be a plan and some re-organization for 2017 and maybe the NRRA could do a site visit and come in with some recommendations. Ms. Cabral will contact them and see if this is an available service. Mrs. Cipriano asked about adding signs and it was noted that they don't read the signs when they come in.

The committee went over the statistics for the month of June and noted that recycling percentage went down slightly. There were discussions about the homes for sale in Hampstead (an average of 10 per month) and what the office is seeing for new residents. Mrs. Harrington reported that it is difficult to tell whereas you see young couples and older couples come in as new residents. Mrs. Harrington reported that there have been about 600 trash stickers sold this year so far. People are either having more trash, or following the rules. Mrs. Harrington reported that Bestway has been in touch more frequently lately to give a heads up when someone has a lot of trash and that they only take what is allowed.

A committee member asked if anyone knew what to do with the large feed bags (such as goat bags). These are listed as #4 plastic (HDPE) but we don't recycle plastic bags. It was noted that most people tend to use them for trash, but it will be looked at. Mrs. Harrington also reported that she had a question from a resident regarding disposal of epi pens. The resident said that they didn't fit into the container she was using. Mrs. Harrington reported that she looked into it and they are to be disposed of in the same manner as the insulin needles. They need to be placed into a rigid plastic container (laundry detergent bottle) with the cap on and taped shut and can right needles on it, and then placed into the trash.

Chairman- Mr. Nugent made a motion to elect Ellen Cabral as the Chairman of the committee. Mrs. Harrington noted that there could be Co-Chairs if they wanted. Mr. Kowalski stated that he would do the finance (budgeting) and Ms. Cabral could do the rest. He seconded the motion. The motion passed with all voting in favor. Ellen Cabral is the new Chairperson.

Motion to adjourn at 8:45 pm was made by Ms. Cabral and seconded by Mr. Kowalski and passed 5-0.

NEXT MEETING

August 10, 2016 at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tina Harrington,
Recording Secretary