

Shutesbury Recycling and Solid Waste Committee

Minutes of April 13, 2010 meeting

Posted meeting convened at the Town Hall at 7:07 pm (Posted by Paul)

Present: Paul Vlach (Chair), Gary Bernhard (Recycling Coordinator), Nancy Dihlmann, Gail Fleischaker, Steve Rice. Absent: (excused due to conflicts) Mino Caulton, Karen Czerwonka, Ron Essig, Meryl Mandell.

1 – Minutes taker for this meeting: Paul

2 – Review and approval of Minutes from March 2, 2010 meeting. Minutes were reviewed verbally from notes. They will be distributed for approval at a future meeting.

3 - Old Business:

1. School composting project – Gary reports Principal Bob Mahler and contractor Rick Innes are still coordinating, but are expected to start up in May. Gary also reports the school's fluorescent bulbs are all being recycling through Home Depot by the janitor, sparing the Recycling Coordinator the burden of packaging and shipping them with the others collected at Town Hall from residents.
2. Bag sales tracking - Gary reports Leverett Co-op sales are being tracked, and he's received sales sheets from several past deliveries. The concept of polling buyers did not happen, nor the use of uniform sales sheets at the library or Town Hall, but this is being addressed. The Master Book will have sales columns added for the Town Hall staff to use. Paul didn't get a polling form to Gary, but the survey (noted later in these minutes) will include the poll seeking feedback on why people need more than the base 50 bag allotment. Gail still plans to create a sales and inventory spreadsheet for Gary to use.
3. MRF Signs purchase. The two signs previously authorized have been ordered.
4. Office phone status - Becky notfd 3/20; still active 4/12/10. Paul spoke with Becky about this a week after this meeting. He found the manual and cleared the cache of old messages; changed the recording to reflect Gary's home info; and set the answering machine to "announce only". Becky says the actual line is part of a package deal and there's no financial incentive to actually discontinue it.
5. Rejection/non-recycling form letter. Gary has completed the draft, and wants info from the committee members about problem addresses. Paul and Gail identified a recurring Leverett Road address for him with high trash volume and never any recycling set out.
6. Duseau pickup/delivery processes review/clarification (weekly & Bulky). No info yet. Gary will call this week to clarify whether we will be charged for the "things

with springs” and electronics roll-offs; and whether the materials go directly to Covanta and the MRF, or via Hatfield, for both weekly pickups and BWD events.

7. Resident Survey - to be done during Bag days - review conducted of Gary’s draft.

4 - New Business:

A. Website 800 numbers - plastic bags & Styrofoam peanuts. The number has now been reassigned to an “adult” business. Gail will adjust the website info.

B. Gary met with Duseau drivers:

- they will track non-recyclers on Gary’s check sheet, which they have; as well as the supply of rejection slips. They will call in to Mary at their office, who will then call Becky at Town Hall with weekly info.
- They report a high % of bags exceed 35 lbs. It’s primarily from cat litter and diapers - Gary will address this in future “Trash Talks”.
- He reminded drivers that they can reject at roadside for this.

C. “TRANSITION SHUTESBURY” sponsorship request from Steve:

- o “In Transition” movie 4/19/10; Transition Towns discussion 5/20/10
- o Becky included this in a Town Administrator (TA) weekly e-mail, and Leslie put it on the website calendar, so there is no need for further sponsorship.

D. Education plan. Gary has some new ideas for community education from the annual recycling conference. He will continue with the “Trash Talk” e-mails as a good start. He suggested we might create a video of Steve's trash separation demo, to show people more effective recycling strategies. Related note: Gail will load the “Trash Talks” onto the website.

E. New State grant money available. More recycling conference info from Gary: State money is available this year for both small-scale and regional initiatives. The due date for applications is June 2. A grant workshop Gary is attending on May 6th will provide more info, which he will share.

F. Bag distribution schedule.

- o Gary - wants to include a BWD notice and the bag distribution schedule in the upcoming Town Newsletter as an insert.
- o Bag Distribution schedule: Dates and staffing signup was started. Gary will catch others by phone and wrap it up.

G. BWD prep. Who, what, when? - Review of the BWD checklist developed for the last event, covering prep/event/post event steps and activities. A quick review was done. Gary will make a final round of confirmation calls with the vendors

involved; Paul is making “sign cappers” with event-specific date info; and Gail is revising and printing the check-in sheets.

H. ReStore collections at BWD? Gary explained that the ReStore recycles usable construction materials from renovation projects. He suggested that we consider utilizing this in the future, although they do require a truckload at a time to make it worthwhile, so it may not be feasible for us. He suggested that we consider a collection day in town just for “ReStore” type items in the summer. We could also enhance our recycling pages on the website with additional ReStore info.

6. Next meeting: None scheduled. Next event dates: Town Meeting May 1st, BWD June 5, and the bag distribution days after that.

Meeting adjourned at 9:09 pm.

These minutes were voted final approval at the July 29, 2010 meeting. PAV