

RSWC Minutes - Nov. 5th, 2009 7:30pm

Minutes taken by: Steve Rice

Present: Gary Bernhard, Meryl Mandell, Steve Rice, Gail Fleischaker, Paul Vlach, Karen Czerwonka, and Ron Essig.

Absent: Mino Caulton, Nancy Dihlmann

1 - **Review** and approve Minutes of Sept. 15, 2009 meeting.

Minutes were approved as presented.

2 - BWD wrap-up, and review of figures.

a. Various invoices to review and discuss:

Covanta/Duseau - There was no itemized accounting and nothing for things with springs. Gary will contact Meg to find out.

Highway – we were charged for overtime and we haven't been charged before. Better communication is needed on this.

Metal: We have not seen a credit yet for scrap metal.

b. Operationally – good, bad, anything to change?

We need to add battery drop off at future BWD. New monitor position worked well, but untested due to lower turnout.

3 - HHW – Household Hazardous Waste – 16 residents this time.

Gary called the Amherst DPW to try to find out who from Shutesbury came to HHW day on Oct 3rd and **what they brought** and was told that they *might* be able to get him the names but they don't keep track of the items people bring. Apparently it's either half a car load or a whole car load of "stuff."

Gary agreed to attempt to get clarification on what people paid at HWD day in Amherst and how the town was billed. Gary will talk to Cheryl. We are also supposed to get a \$200 deduct from our bill for providing a volunteer. Karen will follow up with Sarah for previous records.

4 - Recycled / reusable promotional bag selection and purchase vote.

From Meryl: Info from Chris Warren, dba Print Associates; \$2.25 price was for one color imprint on one side of the bag. To get the other side printed, there's an additional \$0.47 charge per bag. If we do that, we can have the same or different imprints on the two sides of the bag – Chris is donating all set up charges.

The purchase of the bags is a good idea as it encourages recycling by reducing the use of disposable grocery bags and promotes recycling for our town. The committee approved the order of 1000 bags at \$2.25 each. We voted on the blue bag, with a Shutesbury seal and "Shutesbury recycles" printed above and below the seal. Meryl will work with Becky to place the order. Meryl will also draft an paper

insert to include with the bags to explain why the bags are being provided. She will circulate a draft for Committee review.

5 - Recycling Coordinator items and updates – Gary:

a. Update on universal waste recycling and shed maintenance.

Gary reported that Veolia came and picked up everything that had been in the shed. It had been years since the last pick up.

b. Update on food waste at the school.

There appears to be some issues with the getting waste to the pig farmer. Steve agreed to check on the availability of another composter.

Paul also agreed to call Melinda, the PTO chair, to discuss their plans for recycling cell phones and ink cartridges.

c. Ordering new bags for spring distribution.

The committee agreed to order 30,000 bags for next year. We would like to get the same bags as the previous year (square top, not the drawstring, and will fit in a standard 33 gallon garbage can), provided we can find a vendor. The committee agreed that the 10 packs (not the 50 count rolls) was the most useful.

d. Gary proposed a price adjustment on bag sale prices; 10 bags for \$50. We will think about this and put on agenda for a future meeting.

e. Related questions forwarded to me on this topic:

Where do we stand on distribution of bags at a) Leverett Coop? The coop sells bags, but we don't always get sales forms. The dollar amount collected equals the number of bags dropped off. b) Library? Do people really buy bags at the library? Gary will check.

f. Talking Trash emails: topic suggestions from Gary or others?

Use town announce emails for changes in trash collection schedule.

Update on how to handle mercury spills.

Recycling at town hall.

Our new recycling bags.

Tire disposal method.

6 - Welcome Wagon concept to properly introduce new residents to the RSW system – discussion re possible implementation in the future.

Suggested pushing the implementation off to Becky as we already have information for new comers; recycling almanac and trash schedule. Suggestion that Becky email committees and ask what each committee should contribute towards a welcome letter.

7 - Almanac / website updates (Styrofoam issue?, mercury info enhancement? others?)

Gary will write something up re mercury; Gail will research Styrofoam disposal and correct the Almanac and website accordingly.

8 --- North Quabbin Green Economy Network

Info and electronic newsletter from Becky. Has anyone reviewed it?

Do we have an interest or role in this?

Interesting, but nothing for us to do. No action was taken.

9 - Pros and cons of becoming a member of "Call2Recycle"?

Should we sign up?

Paul will call school PTO and find out what they do. We might want to join Call2Recycle but don't want to take on phone collection if the PTO is doing it for their own cause.

10- Adjourned at: 9:25 PM

- These minutes were approved at the January 10, 2010 meeting. PAV