

Recycling and Solid Waste Committee
Minutes of the April 13, 2016 meeting

Present: Meryl Mandell (Chair), Gary Bernhard (Recycling Coordinator), Karen Czerwonka, Nancy Dihlmann, Ron Essig, Gail Fleischaker, Orson Jones, Liz Lacy, Steve Rice, Peg Ross

Invited Guests: Susie Mosher, Susan Quigley

- 1) Susie Mosher reviewed Conflict of Interest Training and reminded committee members that renewal should be completed every two years.

Susie also reported that planning was underway for Roadside Community Cleanup, Saturday April 30, from 10 a.m. until noon. Info will be published in the town newsletter and NextDoor Shutesbury. Children in the school will make flyers. Bottles and cans picked up at roadside will be recycled. RSWC will donate trash bags and offered \$25 for advertising.

- 2) Susan Quigley was invited as a perspective member of RSWC. She has an interest in sustainability and becoming more involved in the community. Gary and Meryl gave her a brief overview of RSWC. The committee voted unanimously at the end of the meeting that Sue be a new member.

Old Business:

- 3) Approved minutes of December 16, 2015 meeting as written.
- 4) Bulky Waste Day October 2015: Gail reported that we had 93 families participating, with a net loss of close to \$400. Information on the metal recycling has yet to appear. Gary will email Eric Curtis, regional manager of Republic, to get the numbers. (Gary has tried to contact Eric Wartel to see if he will be willing to bring his shredding truck for June's Bulky Waste Day but has not heard back.)

New Business:

- 5) Solid Waste Contract Status: Our contract with the Materials Recycling Committee (MRF) is good through 2020. Arlene Miller indicated to Gary that Chicopee is considering joining Covanta, which would reduce our cost per ton from \$85 to \$61 until 2018. Our contract with Republic will be up next year, June 30, 2017. Arlene Miller and Gary will be contacting Eric Curtis at Republic about negotiating a new contract. The RFP is in good shape and would just need updating.

- 6) Bulky Waste Day June 4, 2016: Gary will be out of town and will send his list of contacts to Meryl. Electronics, refrigerators, batteries will continue to be collected. Gary will make sure that the MRF is aware of delivery of bulky rigid plastics. Meryl will put out a request for volunteers.
- 7) Winter trash pickup: Town residents on the gravel portion of Wendell Rd., plus 2-3 other roads that the trash haulers don't want to travel in winter, will be asked to bring their trash to the end of the road from December 15 to April 1.
- 8) Grant status: Gary reported that grant proposals are due in June. One grant for \$500 is based on town population. Another, for \$1200, is granted to communities that are effective in recycling. Possibilities for spending of grant monies: educational materials, textile recycling webinars, composting bins, recycling bins, trash bags, composting seminar, tote bags.
- 9) PAYT distribution dates: Committee members signed up for trash bag distribution dates, three each if possible.
- 10) Other: Orson brought up the idea of "Take it or leave it" and how this has worked at Leverett's transfer station (i.e. book shed, clothing shed, etc.) Would Leverett be willing for Shutesbury to participate? Orson will talk with Leverett about this.

Meeting adjourned at 8:18 p.m. Minutes submitted by Peg Ross