

Page 1
Draft Meeting Minutes – Recycling and Solid Waste Committee (RSWC) –
3/3/2022

cpAttendees (virtual Zoom) – Meryl Mandell (Chair), Gary Bernhard (Recycling Coordinator), Gail Fleischaker, Tim Logan, Steve Rice, Peggy Ross

Absent – Susan Quigley, Ron Essig, Maria Killough

1 - The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.

2 - Minutes from 1/6/2022 meeting were approved.

3 – Attendees agreed that future meetings would not be scheduled on Thursdays due to members’ routine scheduling conflicts.

4 – Status of Prior Action items:

A - Gary will talk more with Susan Waite and Arlene Miller regarding future contract considerations (such as multi-year extensions and multi-town coordinated bids). **DONE**.

B – Gary needs to schedule a meeting with Meryl and the Town Administrator to discuss whether or not they can place an order directly, for trash bags and compost bins, in the coming weeks, rather than go through the Town Administrator. **ON GOING**: Becky Torres would like the RSWC to take charge but needs to first resolve some issues regarding use of the Town Master Charge card. Clarifying charges to the RSWC revolving account to better track funds was discussed and Gail volunteered to help sort out data.

C - Gary will continue to check on regional coordination for handling some textiles and mattresses and provide a short writeup on textiles and mattresses for the website. **ON GOING**: Gary talked to the LTS about mattresses. It is not a small issue to process mattresses due to manpower and logistics. In general, no one wants to put in the effort that would be required. Gary will continue to explore mattress recycle options. Gary also posted updated textile information in the Town Hall and on the Town website. Gary would like to get 3-4 towns working together on mattress and textile disposal/recycle options.

D - Meeting with the school principal about recycling education is on hold until after a new hauler contract is signed. **ON HOLD**

E – Gail will get in contact with Shed Works and further explore options for a shed canopy. **DONE**: Gail talked to Shed Works and confirmed that attaching a permanent canopy would require a 2nd roof and is not really an option. Instead, a motion was made and passed unanimously to buy a vendor tent. **TO DO**: Gary will make the purchase.

F - Gary will follow up with Amy Donovan at Franklin County on residential and school food composting. **ON HOLD**.

G - Meryl will set up a Google doc for hauler interview questions. **DONE**

Page 2
Draft Meeting Minutes – Recycling and Solid Waste Committee (RSWC) –
3/3/2022

H - Gary will contact haulers (after getting contact info from Arlene Miller) and set up separate appointments with each throughout the day on Friday, January 14. DONE.

5 – New Business

A - Status of RFP (Request for Proposal): The 3/3/2022 pre-proposal conference was attended by Casella and USA Waste & Recycling. Casella asked for the submission due date to be extended to 3/24/2022 and the request was granted. USA asked for a little clarification about the timeline. After the proposals come in, we will tentatively meet on 3/28/2022 at 7 to discuss. Meryl will double check on dates by setting up a Google poll and then confirm. All members should pick up copies of the proposals at Town Hall after 3/24/2022. Nine copies will be available.

B – Textile Collection Program: Gary checked into CMARK – a company which collects and resells or repurposes textiles. For every pound collected, the Town would receive 7 cents. Collection would be accomplished by setting up a bin. There would be no cost to the Town. CMARK, if contacted by a resident, would also schedule large pickups such as might occur when someone moves. Any potential cost would be borne by the resident. If we were to do this, the Select Board would have to be consulted regarding a bin location. The bin would require easy access. It would be emptied on a regular basis or whenever it is full. No carpet remnants are allowed. An optional book bin is possible. The committee voted to proceed with CMARK and setup a textile bin. Gary will contact Mary Anne, the Library Director, to discuss the book bin idea and will also contact the Select Board.

C – Library April 23 roadside cleanup: The library needs sufficient bags to help with this project and the committee agreed to provide them. Gary will follow through on this.

D – Income from the Material Recovery Facility (MRF): Gail brought up / reminded us of the potential swings in MRF revenue. Revenue from the MRF is determined by the formula: tons X rate – fee = revenue. The rate changes monthly and can fluctuate greatly. Lately rates have been very low. The processing fee is \$90 / ton. If the rate drops too low, the Town can potentially pay a significant amount to the MRF rather than receive revenue. The Town has been fortunate so far to benefit from higher rates but this can change and both the RSWC and Town should be aware of this potential. This is an excellent reminder from Gail. The MRF's current processing fee is \$95.84/ton (= with 2.5% annual escalation from FY2022 base of %93.50).

6 - Future action items:

A – Becky Torres would like the RSWC to take charge of RSWC purchasing but needs to first resolve some issues regarding use of the Town Master Charge card. Gail Fleischaker will check with Gail Weiss (Town Accountant) to clarify which revenue funds go into the revolving account.. Gary and Meryl to meet with Becky Torres to clarify process for purchasing items off the state contracts.

Page 3
Draft Meeting Minutes – Recycling and Solid Waste Committee (RSWC) –
3/3/2022

B - Gary will continue to explore mattress recycle options and the possibility of getting 3-4 towns to work together on mattress and textile disposal/recycle options.

C - Meeting with the school principal about recycling education is on hold until after a new hauler contract is signed. ON HOLD

D – Gary will purchase a vendor tent for the shed.

E - Gary will follow up with Amy Donovan at Franklin County on residential and school food composting. ON HOLD.

F – Meryl will setup a Google poll to confirm date for discussing received proposals.

G – Gary will contact the Select Board regarding setting up a bin for CMARK textile collection and discuss the idea of the optional book bin with Mary Anne.

H – Gary will let Mary Anne know that the RSWC will provide bags for the roadside cleanup on April 23.

7 - Meeting adjourned at 7:55pm.