



H·R·R·A
www.hrra.org

Old Town Hall
162 Whisconier Road
Brookfield, CT 06804

203.775.6256 x304
203.740.9167
info@hrra.org

r e d u c e | r e u s e | r e c y c l e

**Regional Recycling Task Force Meeting
Thursday, February 5, 2009, 10:30 a.m.
Brookfield Town Hall
Room 133**

MINUTES

The January meeting of the RRTF was called to order at 10:38 a.m. The following members were in attendance for at least some part of the meeting: L. Morelli, D. Leslie, K. Ferris, R. Byrnes, M. Pascento, T. Cutsumpas, S. Von Holt, A. Miles, D. Dunleavy, S. Hastings and C. Reedy. Others in attendance were Gary Trinetti and Bruce Hillier from New Milford Farms/Garick Corp. and Dan Butterini, from DB Consulting in Ridgefield.

Update on White Street Transfer Station Sale

C. Reedy gave a brief update on why the City of Danbury is pursuing ownership of the White Street Transfer Station on behalf of the region rather than HRRRA, the process the City intends to follow and the benefits the City brings to the table for potential bidders in the federal auction.

New England Grassroots Environmental Fund – Small Grants Program

C. Reedy passed out information on a small grant program (\$500 - \$2,500) available to grassroots organizations in CT for recycling, natural resources, and sustainability projects. The application is relatively complicated compared with others and must be postmarked by May 1st for distribution in July 2009. She also passed out copies of DEP's quarterly P2View Pollution Prevention Newsletter and highlighted the article on trayless eating for those school systems still trying to remove Styrofoam from their waste stream.

E-waste Recycling Update

C. Reedy updated members on implementation of the State's new e-waste law. The 11 HRRRA communities intend to file a regional e-waste plan with the State by March 1st and to request proposals for a vendor to service the entire region and provide no cost recycling for all e-waste collected, whether covered by the State program or not, as well as e-waste from municipal offices and schools. According to the law the new program should be implemented statewide by July 1, 2009, but it will likely be later due to DEP's tardiness in writing and approving the regulations necessary for the program to operate. Whenever DEP is ready to commence, the HRRRA municipalities will be ready to go.

2009 Recycling Poster Contest

C. Reedy expressed concern about the low number of participants reported to HRRRA to date. However, RRTF members from Brookfield, Danbury, New Fairfield, Sherman, New Milford,

and Newtown all reported good participation rates in their communities. The group brainstormed ideas to assist W. Lionetti's attempts to get the poster contest considered by the Ridgefield public schools. M. Pascento suggested that teachers use the poster contest as an activity for indoor recess days. Other members suggested using the local Youth Agency or Parks and Recreation Department to publicize the contest if the schools are unwilling to participate. The next RRTF meeting will be devoted to judging and choosing the regional winners at each grade level.

Issued Raised by Members

- M. Pascento reported that the solar panels for the roof of the Sherman School are on hold due to the economy.
- D. Leslie asked about other communities' participation in the Nike Reuse-a-Shoe collection this year. Sherman is participating as well as Middle Gate School in Newtown. D. Leslie will try to get the trash hauler for Huckleberry Hill School in Brookfield to donate a dumpster for sneaker collection. HERRA will again pay for transportation from one regional collection site to the state collection site in New Haven.
- D. Leslie gave an update on the HHS composting program which started in late fall and won't really take off until spring. The school tried vermicomposting in the classrooms but had to abandon that due to concerns by the school nurse. When moved outside, the worms froze, so the school will be using just the regular composting process. In the fall of 2009 the school hopes to put up a greenhouse and start its own garden.
- R. Byrnes reported that Dave Seeger built four more outdoor recycling containers for use on Sherman playing fields and outdoor venues.

New Milford Farms

G. Trinetti, the President of Garick Corp. talked to the group about the programs available at New Milford Farms, some of the challenges the facility has faced since it opened and how those challenges have been met. The Company wants to be a partner with the RRTF and the communities that it serves and will send a representative to future RRTF meetings.

Without dissent the meeting was adjourned at 12:20 p.m.