



H·R·R·A
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**Regional Recycling Task Force Meeting
Thursday, January 6, 2011, 10:30 a.m.
Brookfield Town Hall
Second Floor Conference Room**

MINUTES

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:37 a.m. Those present included L. Kulowiec (RE), E. Rossini (RI), C. Loudon (NF), S. Von Holt (NM), A. Miles (NE), A. Cordano (RI Schools), J. Calhoun (NM/BOE), J. Iannucci (HRRRA) and C. Reedy (HRRRA). Also attending were Chris Coady and Tim Flanagan (Hudson Baylor).

Approval of Minutes

Motion by L. Kulowiec, second by A. Miles **Vote:** All in favor.

2011 Poster Contest

- **C. Reedy** reported -
 - By the end of January, towns should give J. Iannucci the name and information of their coordinator.
 - Coordinators must have all local winners' posters into the HRRRA office no later than March 7th. There are no exceptions this year.
 - At the last meeting we discussed interesting ways to get the word out. Patch, Channel 17 etc.
 - Reminders on how to judge posters: It can be done by the coordinator themselves, elected officials, art teacher and or principal. Use best judgments as to who should or could judge.
 - Let Jen know in advance how many ribbons you need so we can bring to March meeting for local ceremony.
 - Anyone wanting prizes for all participates should also let Jen know so she bring such prizes to the March meeting. HRRRA has piggy banks and earth balls for participation prizes.
 - Please stress with students and teachers that there must be a home address on the back of each poster so that the HRRRA office can send an invitation to the regional winners and their families well before the award ceremony.
 - The HRRRA office only needs 1st place winners from each grade and school. At most 13 posters can be submitted from each town.
 - HRRRA reached out to haulers for sponsorships this year for the first time. Three companies responded, i.e. Associated Refuse Haulers, Trashranger Dumpster Service, and All American Waste. Next year sponsorships may be broken up into funding categories.
 - It would be great if haulers were to display magnetic copies of the winning posters on their trucks.
- **C. Loudon** requested J. Iannucci send him the poster contest flyer PDF file.
- **E. Rossini** requested J. Iannucci send her the poster contest flyer publisher file.
- **E. Rossini** - spoke with her local Union Savings Bank branch and they liked the idea of uploading the photos onto their branch TV monitors.

- **C. Reedy** - There will soon be a new CEO for Union Savings Bank. He is supportive and behind the HRRRA poster contest 100%.
- **C. Reedy** asked if anyone had any concerns about poster contest participation.
 - Suggested we get the word out to all Girl Scout and boy scouts groups and Parks and Recreation departments.
 - If a child attends a regional school but lives in another town, they are still eligible to participate in the contest.
 - Would someone look into the home school network and get a name a contact person for Jen to reach out to.
 - Flyers can be posted in local libraries.
 - Last year had Kent participated for the first time; this year Bridgewater will participate. It would be great to see Danbury's participation increase. If you have a connection with anyone within the schools etc. Please let Jen know.
 - The winner's Billboard is located on the available billboard in or closest to their home town.
- **A. Cordano** asked about the numbers of participants from previous years.
- **J. Iannucci** will send participation results out to members

Items Raised by Members

C. Reedy reported for D. Leslie who could not attend the meeting:

- The light recycling program was very successful at all three schools. She picked up a car load of lights and was even able to drop them off at the Danbury Home Depot. She has one more pick-up for Whisconier, and will be mailing the box off later this week. Looking ahead to next year, D. Leslie will contact Home Depot in the early fall and get more information from them about the on-site program. They offer coupons in exchange for the lights; however, because she dropped off the lights so close to the holiday, she was not eligible to get any.

A. Cordano - also participated in the light recycling program. She had participation from 4 schools. All the boxes were full and she had additional bags as well. She plans to bring them to the Home Depot. She plans to start earlier next year as well.

C. Reedy inquired if anyone was having problems in their towns regarding mattress disposal, either cost or finding them dumped on the side of the road.

Wheelabrator will take them at their burn plant but only a few at a time because they are hard to get into the hopper. They don't want truck loads.

There is a new product stewardship program getting started to take back and recycle mattresses. It will be paid for by the manufacturers. While the latex paint initiative was started in other states, the mattress initiative is something that has started here in Connecticut. CRRA is funding the dialog. The group has just started looking into this project. Some used mattresses are resold without being sanitized. This is a public health issue and helps increase the spread of bed bugs.

C. Loudon - In New Fairfield there is an issue with cost to residents. It's expensive per foot. But, residents pay up to \$40 to drop off a king mattress, enough to cover the town's costs.

L. Kulowiec - Redding doesn't process its mattresses separately. They get more in spring and summer than winter.

L. Kulowiec - has distributed Cartridge World bins around town. He has cardboard bins at the community center and town hall. Larry reminded everyone that the owner will do school fundraisers, one time. CW will offer deals on replacement cartridges. CW does ask for a list of needed cartridges and will get back to you on pricing. They do take all cartridges. L. Kulowiec receives a report on what is re-used

and what gets recycled. He will send an email to J. Iannucci on CW information to send to all RRTF members.

J. Calhoun reported his biggest problem is in Food Service. They have cut back on personnel and the dishwashers are broken so they are using Styrofoam. This is a dollar and sense issue.

J. Calhoun – Danbury Carting is the hauler for the New Milford Public Schools, and they do not take the Styrofoam.

J. Calhoun – School is now looking to replace computers and asks what is the most efficient way to recycle school electronics.

C. Reedy – Town of NM has contract with We Recycle and the school computers are included in the contract. WeRecycle would come to the school with containers for pick-up. Once a year or maybe twice. They do ask that you contact Apple Computer first to see if they will take them back. Should be noted that WeRecycle only offers this service to HRRRA regional towns.

C. Loudon - He has had problems with WeRecycle recently. They are outsourcing their pick-ups. He no longer sees WeRecycle trucks and is not happy with the service New Fairfield is receiving from the outsourced vendors. There is also poor communications.

L. Kulowiec - Agreed that there is a long lag time between calling and pick up that wasn't there before. He now calls 3-4 days earlier than before because it takes longer for pick-up.

C. Loudon – There was no pick-up in December in New Fairfield.

A. Miles –Reported that WeRecycle! has been leaving some TV's behind. Sometimes at pick up there is not enough room available on the truck to take all the TVs that have been dropped off in Newtown.

C.Reedy – New state e-waste law has not officially been implemented. DEP must first post a list of certified electronics recyclers (CERs) eligible to collect e-waste under the law. WeRecycle! will be on that list.

C.Reedy – HRRRA will be advertising e- waste recycling in the next few months on local Patches, Channel 17s and perhaps stickers on the front page of the News Times.

C.Reedy –Schools can use the HHW collections as long as the quantity is only what can reasonably be collected in a school year. Schools that have not disposed of their hazardous waste for many years need to pay a vendor to collect at the school. Once the legacy material is cleaned up, the schools are welcome to bring the past year's material to one of the regional HHW days at no charge, as long as they arrive at the site at least a half hour before the event opens to the public.

S. Von Holt – Asked if there was any news on the paint stewardship legislation?

C. Reedy – The legislation has the same sponsors and supporters as last year. CCM was official sponsor and COST was not asked last year but CR is asking towns to send COST letters asking for support. In Oregon, it's been reported that retailers are climbing over each other to offer drop off centers to get the foot traffic. The program offers to take all latex paint including legacy paint.

L. Kulowiec –Asked if towns should send letters to DEP in regard to timely implementation of the e-waste legislation?

C. Reedy – Said it was not necessary but if a town sends something those comments should be directed to the DEP Commissioner.

Adjournment

Without objection the meeting was adjourned at 12:05pm.