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**Regional Recycling Task Force Meeting
Thursday, March 12, 2015, 10:30 a.m.
Brookfield Town Hall - Second Floor Conference Room**

MINUTES

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:33 a.m. Those present included, L. Gramling (BK), C. Loudon (NF), S. Von Holt (NM), D. DeMuth (BE), E. Rossini (RI), A. Cordano (RI), S. Conn (BK), J. Drescher (Winters), P. Oberg (All American), D. Esposito (DA), and C. Reedy (HRRRA)

Approval of minutes

Motion by S. Von Holt, second by D. DeMuth, to approve the minutes of December 4, 2014 as presented.

Vote: All in favor

Open Dialogue with PSI re Mattresses and Carpets

Suna Bayrakal and Sydney Hausman-Cohen from the Product Stewardship Institute in Boston called into the meeting to query members about their experiences and concerns with mattress and carpet stewardship programs.

- C. Loudon - New Fairfield - biggest concern is the condition of most carpet coming into the transfer station and keeping it dry. Padding is always awful. Lots of remnants that come in are brand new. He repurposes 10-15% of remnants at the transfer station. Carpet not repurposed is now disposed of as bulky waste. Mattress program not yet in operation.
- S. VonHolt - New Milford - Mattress program not yet in operation. Carpet into town recycling center disposed of as bulky waste.
- E. Rossini - Ridgefield - Concerns about contamination if residents self-load containers. Current collection of e-waste at transfer station badly contaminated when residents self-load.
- C. Reedy - HRRRA - Municipal transfer stations have expressed concern about each new product stewardship law adding an additional container to their site. Many have sites that are too small to accommodate additional side load containers. Haulers expressed concern about bedbugs when picking up mattresses under the new stewardship program. Mattress recycler said it was okay to cover the mattresses with a plastic sleeve to protect against bedbug contact and to keep mattress dry.

Any municipality that wants to share additional information or concerns with PSI regarding mattress or carpet stewardship programs can contact them by e-mail at: Suna@productstewardship.us or Sydney@productstewardship.us.

Mattress Recycling Council Contracts

C. Loudon reported he had met with J. Fallon from MRC and was awaiting his container. New Milford and Ridgefield both need to follow up with J. Fallon. Municipalities were reminded that they must sign up online and meet with MRC staff to get a container and voluntarily participate in the program which starts officially on May 1st.

Tire Stewardship Proposed Legislation

J. Iannucci testified in favor of the tire stewardship bill, SB 869, at the Environment Committee on February 13th. The industry testified against the bill. RRTF members were advised to contact their state legislators if they are in support of tire stewardship legislation. C. Reedy passed out a flyer on a tire recycling program run by Bridgestone that accepts tires recovered from organized clean-ups of public spaces, watersheds, rivers, etc. at no charge. Information on the program is available at <http://www.oneteamoneplanet.com/americas/tires4ward/>.

Poster Contest Judging

E. Rossini asked that the poster contest templates be distributed in December next year. She had a difficult time doing the poster contest coordinator work in the time allotted given the type of winter weather the region experienced.

Members then judged all the first place winners submitted from each town and chose the regional winners noted on the attached sheet.

Items to be Raised by Members

There were no items raised by members.

Adjournment

Without objection the meeting was adjourned at 12:10 p.m.