



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, June 4, 2015, 10:30 a.m.  
Room 209, Brookfield Town Hall**

**MINUTES**

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 10:38 a.m. Those present included, J. Hanson (RE), S. Conn (BK), S. Von Holt (NM), J. Barnell-Drescher (Winters), J. Iannucci and C. Reedy (HRRA). On the phone was R. Byrnes (SH) and E. Rossini (RI) joined by phone at 10:45 a.m. R. Byrnes thanked J. Iannucci for having a call in number to use for those who couldn't make it to the meeting in person. A call in number will be provided for all future meetings.

**Approval of minutes**

**Motion** by S. Von Holt, second by S. Conn, to approve the minutes of May 7, 2015, as presented. **Note:** All in favor.

**2015 Municipal Recycling Goals**

D. Demuth turned in recycling goals for the Bethel public schools for 2015 last week.

**Mattress Stewardship Updates from Towns**

- J. Hanson reported that the new mattress program has been "effortless" so far in Redding. The town employees are putting the mattresses in the container. So far they haven't fill one container yet. The program has been well received by residents.
- E. Rossini reported that Ridgefield had one container pick up already. Residents are loading their own mattresses for the most part and doing a poor job of it. There needs to be information posted on the side of the container to show how to load a mattress.
- R. Byrnes reported that a few people in Sherman inquired about recycling mattresses. She is going to do a one day collection for mattresses and perhaps e-waste too later in the summer.
- J. Barnell-Drescher was asked if the mattress container was in place at the Mom & Pop for Danbury residents. (She reported back after the meeting that it was.)
- There was a letter to the editor in the NewsTimes on Sunday complaining about the mattress fee. It appeared that the retailer did not do a good job explaining what the fee was for or where it goes.

**E-Waste Updates from Towns**

- E. Rossini said that communication for pickups by NewTech was much better than with Meyers.
- S. Von Holt agreed, saying even when NewTech showed up with its truck half full, it came back the next day as promised to pick up the rest of New Milford's material.

### **Legislative Update**

C. Reedy reported that neither the tire study bill nor the battery bill passed this session. The CT PSC and CRC will be working in the off-session to better educate local legislators on the benefits of product stewardship and try to find a legislative champion for next year. DEEP will go ahead and do the tire study this summer with interns even though it is not mandated by legislation. DEEP has asked if towns would track the number of tires they deal with at their transfer stations and along the roadsides and the cost of disposal for those tires and report that data to them by the end of the summer. Redding, New Milford and Brookfield all reported not having to pick up many tires from the roadside and not taking in many tires at the transfer stations. J. Iannucci reported the Bridgestone program, used by Bridgewater during the cleanup of Lake Lillinah, took the tires in a pickup truck to Firestone on Federal Road.

### **WOW Guide for Kids**

J. Iannucci asked for feedback on the WOW Guide for Kids passed out at the last meeting. J. Hanson's administrative assistant reviewed the guide and marked it up. J. Iannucci will send out an electronic version of the guide for others to review who were not able to attend a meeting. She needs all comments back ASAP so the guide can go to the printer by the end of June.

### **DEEP Grant Program for Towns**

C. Reedy reviewed the three grant programs being offered now by DEEP for municipalities. The Task Force members discussed possible programs or services that their town could apply for through the grant program. HRRRA is available to review grant applications or help brainstorm ideas for grants for any town that asks. Additional information is available on the DEEP website by clicking [here](#).

### **DEEP Comprehensive Materials Management Strategy (CMMS) Process**

No update is available on this process since the last meeting.

### **Items to be Raised by Members**

- J. Hanson said that the promises made by Environmental Office Solutions for ink cartridge recycling at the last meeting were not true and that it appeared that using the program would actually end up costing Redding money as the company would charge the town to take away most of the cartridges dropped off by residents at the transfer station.
- On a positive note, J. Hanson said that Park City Green dropped off a book recycling bin at the transfer station and that one load had already been sent down to Bridgeport. They also take DVDs, CDs, cassettes, etc. He was impressed that A. Houel had followed through on all she had promised to do. E. Rossini said that was her experience as well with a clothing donation made through her church.
- S. Von Holt reported that MXI was the only bidder for HHW vendor services for New Milford. This year Kent will join the other towns using the New Milford HHW collection on September 19th.
- J. Iannucci reported that Mitchell Oil picked up the propane tanks from the Newtown HHW collection within a half hour after the close of the collection and at no charge to HRRRA. Perhaps they will do the same for New Milford, although S. Von Holt noted that the town usually takes in about 20 pallets of propane tanks at its HHW collection.

### **Adjournment**

Without objection the meeting was adjourned at 11:46 a.m.

*Minutes taken by Cheryl Reedy, HRRRA Assistant Director.*