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**Regional Recycling Task Force Meeting
Thursday November 7, 2013, 10:30 a.m.
Brookfield Town Hall
Second Floor Conference Room**

MINUTES

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:31 a.m. Those present included, B. Sullivan (BW), T. Tibolla (BK), C. Loudon (NF), R. Byrnes (SH), P. Prunty (DA), S. Von Holt (NM), A. Miles (NE), D. Demuth (BE), E. Rossini (RI), A. Cordano (RI), P. Oberg (All American Waste), R. Bingham (Winters Bros.), J. Iannucci (HRRA) and C. Reedy (HRRA)

Approval of Minutes

Motion by R. Byrnes second by S.VonHolt, to approve the minutes of October 3, 2013 as presented.
Vote: All in favor

Christmas Light Recycling Information

Several Christmas light recycling programs will be available in the coming months. J. Iannucci will email information and links to the task force and post on the HRRA facebook page.

NERC Conference

C. Reedy shared details about the NERC Conference held in Northampton Massachusetts at the end of October. J. Iannucci and C. Reedy attended the conference as well as representatives from All American and Winters Brothers. The conference was informative. There were a lot of cutting edge examples and ideas shared regarding the organics (food scrap) composting industry.

Mattress Law

C. Reedy shared information regarding the new CT mattress law that takes effect in 2015. Free containers and transportation will be provided to all transfer station and recycling centers who wish to participate. C. Reedy needs members to indicate if they want to take part in the program and if so how large of a container is needed. Containers cannot sit more than 6 months.

DEEP Grant Program

C. Reedy announced a Connecticut grant program for municipalities who want to improve or implement a Pay As You Throw program in the town or at the transfer station. The State is offering up to \$50,000 in grant money to towns who commit to adopting and implementing a PAYT program. There is a workshop for interested municipalities November 13th.

Free training workshop on bedbug management

J. Iannucci shared information regarding the free training workshop to support the CT Reuse and Recycling industries. Solid Waste haulers and recycling transfer station attendants should attend. The workshop is designed to learn about self protection, identification, and appropriate management for bed bugs in industry settings. Certificate provided upon completion.

Municipal annual recycling goals for 2014

Town of Ridgefield Highway Dept. Goals Met 2013 as reported by E. Rossini and A. Cordano

1. Recycling Center:
 - a. Became single-stream September 6, 2013
 - b. Has large Single Stream banner
 - c. Increased promotion in newspaper
 - d. System introduced by permit and on-site tutorial by Recycling Center and highway staff starting September, 2013
2. Forged new and have nurtured present relationships in all six elementary, two middle school and one high school in town. Have a definitive list of contacts used for all recycling news (poster contest, Trex challenge, and composter grant).
3. Helped create an 11-town, all-inclusive handout (WOW guide). Now for seminars, town hall, new permit registrations, the Library and transfer station. Addition of link to WOW guide available through town recycling website – October, 2013
4. Installed Litterless Lunch program - Ridgefield High School – October 2013

Town of Ridgefield Recycling Goals for 2014 as reported by E. Rossini and A. Cordano

1. Initiate and foster collection of foods waste from each public school (six elementary, two middle school and one high school) – possibly New Milford Farms as the end site.
2. Recycling Center:

Now that single-stream is in place, introduce the system and provide ongoing education through

 - a. GEMs (5th grader group at Boys and Girls Club of Ridgefield)
 - b. Scout troops
 - c. websites for the Town and Library
 - d. WOW guide – easy accessibility (link and paper copy)
 - e. In-Home Recycling Team (possible link to GEMS)
3. Increase promotion of the Bin Lending program. Usage has increased; however, coordinator needs a refresher tutorial on the use of the database (have paper copies of lending situations).
4. Install and maintain Got Books and Cartridge World collection bins for their respective recyclable materials.

Town of Sherman Recycling Goals for 2014 as reported by R. Byrnes

1. Include mattress collection and e-waste collection to Annual Sherman Roadside & Community Clean up Day. E-waste may have to be on a different day depending on vendor and space availability.
2. TREX plastic bag recycling challenge

3. Update town website with FAQs on Recycling or create a separate Recycling web page.

City of Danbury Recycling Goals for 2014 as reported by P.J. Prunty

1. Initiate and promote more collection boxes in City Hall along with Board of Education for printer cartridges, toner and other printing materials. This is a program being run by the Newtown Junior Women's Club.
2. Push for "Big Belly" trash compactors located throughout the Downtown area. We are getting new garbage cans. I would like to lobby to install a few of these solar powered devices that compact the garbage and recycling. This will decrease the amount of time city workers need to remove the trash.
3. Would like to double the number of poster contest entries. (Personal goal)
4. Reach out to more civic organization and social clubs prior to the Clean City Danbury Day to see if we can have more teams that are assigned to specific streets to clean up debris and litter.
5. Initiate plastic/glass/aluminum bottle return in each kitchen at City Hall.

Items to be Raised by members

S. Von Holt asked about an update on the new ewaste vendor NewTech. C. Reedy explained the transition is going well and that NewTech will have a 90 day trial period. Kent has gone with another vendor and they will report their experience as well after 90 days.

C. Reedy shared there is a new commercial composting facility in Danbury. New England Compost is located at Taylor Farm on Great Plain Avenue. The facility is permitted to process 5000 cubic yards per year. The new CT Organics law will take effect for all generators January 1, 2014.

Pass out Poster Templates

J. Iannucci distributed the 2014 poster contest templates to the task force.

Adjournment

Without objection the meeting was adjourned at 11:27 a.m.