



**Regional Recycling Task Force Meeting
Thursday, June 7, 2018, 10:30 a.m.
HRRRA Office
Brookfield Town Hall, Room #209
162 Whisconier Road, Brookfield, CT 06804**

MINUTES

In Attendance

J. Heaton-Jones called the meeting to order at 10:33 a.m. In attendance were B. Aduleit (WB), R. Byrnes (SH), T. Ciatto (WB), S. Conn (BK) D. DeMuth (BK/BOE), A. Dinho (BW), M. Flanagan (BE), K. Kerlin-Gunzel (RI/PV), B. Hanna (NM), J. Hanson (RE), K. LeJava (BK/BOE), A. Miles (NE), P. Oberg (AAW), C. Praissman (BK/BOE), E. Rossini (RI), T. Carlson and J. Heaton-Jones.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by A. Miles, second by M. Flanagan, to approve the minutes of April 5, 2018 as presented. **Vote:** All in favor.

Accepting small propane tanks at your transfer station

J. Heaton-Jones confirmed Novella's will take 5lb propane tanks if punctured with two holes, one on the top and one on the bottom. M. Flanagan confirmed Metal Management, in North Haven also accepts 5lb propane tanks properly punctured. Following discussion HRRRA agreed to purchase in bulk the "CrunchIt tool" to share with towns to encouraging accepting the tanks. RRTF will receive an email when they are available for pickup from HRRRA office.

Residents need to be told tanks must be drained of all fuel before bringing in.

New OSHA requirements on dumpsters

B. Hanna shared his experience with replacing a bulky waste container. Vendor providing refurbished equipment stated OSHA requirements have been updated to require a barrier of at least 42" from the blade of compactor. New Milford installed a three sided cage which still allows access from the front of the compactor for residents. J. Heaton-Jones encouraged public works directors to check out what current OSHA requirements are so they remain in compliance.

HHW Events - Participation

J. Heaton-Jones solicited for feedback and ideas of how to better communicate when HHW events are happening. There are 85,000 households within the 11 member towns and the participation range by # cars is between 600 – 1000. How do we increase participation?

HRRRA is a resource for you to field calls from residents with comments or questions about HHW events. You may also address the common complaint as to why there aren't more events offered or participation allowed outside the region with the following information:

- Events costs are covered by tax dollars; taxpayers from a given region are paying for the expense
- On average events cost \$50,000
- Inquire what the material(s) is they are wanting to dispose of – there may be an alternate solution

- For residents who may be moving before the next event, suggest printing out the flyer from the next HHW event, putting it with the boxed up items and asking a family member or friend to drop off the items at the next event.

WRAP updates from Transfer Stations

T. Carlson requested data feedback on how many pounds of plastic are WRAP champions collecting. Guesstimates may be made using an average weight of 26 lbs./bag X number of bags used thus far. Please send data to T. Carlson along with approximate date you started collecting plastic film.

To secure collection bag refills contact: Jeffrey Haen, (920) 912-4775, jeff@polywraprecycling.com

RRTF 2018-19 meeting schedule

Following discussion, J. Heaton-Jones confirm RRTF will add a September meeting to next year's schedule. Unless otherwise noted, meeting will take place the first Thursday of the month at the Brookfield Town Hall starting at 10:30am.

Summer events and bin lending program

RRTF should continue to promoting Bin Lending programs in their towns. J. Heaton-Jones asked for feedback if additional bins were wanted and reported bag refills may be picked up from the HRRR office.

Organizations can borrow the bins but they must go through the town where the event will be located to request bin use. A recap of the Recycling Bin Lending Program will be emailed which includes this link for the borrower to report event details. It was requested the HRRR post information about the Bin Lending program on the HRRR website.

Forming database of local environmental groups

HRRR is compiling a database of environmental groups within our region to use when getting the word out about events and messaging. Please send T. Carlson name(s) of groups and/or key contacts for groups originating in your town. Additionally, they groups may be leading the SustainableCT effort for your town and reach out to you for assistance and documentation for their efforts. J. Heaton-Jones suggested checking out SustainableCT.org to understand how local organizers might solicit you for help with actions and certifications.

Discuss Pros/Cons of Municipal Recycling Goals Checklist task

J. Heaton-Jones requested feedback from towns about merit of continuing annual task in its current format. Towns report varying levels of support and compliance by municipal department heads and schools. HRRR will review current checklist with an eye to simplify data collection. C. Praissman suggested developing an online survey tool as an alternative to the current paper format.

Items to be Raised by Member

J. Heaton-Jones reminded members it is important that municipalities make it easy for residents to find information on recycling and other waste disposal information on the town's website. Review your municipal website and request that your Drop-Off Center and other recycling information be placed in a visible location such as the home page for residents to find easily.

B. Aduleit confirmed textile recycling will be offered at the Mom and Pop site.

M. Flanagan commended Winters Bros. on the shredded paper collection process. Great offering for residents and process is working beautifully.

S. Conn commended All American Waste for their outreach to help following the storm that hit the area.

B. Hanna inquired about the RFP and selection process for an e-waste vendor when the current contract is up. J. Heaton-Jones reviewed steps and confirmed members would be involved in the deliberations.

S. Conn and B. Hanna both thanked All American Waste for their support during the clean-up after the recent storm.

T. Ciatto commented Quantum Biopower had contacted Winters Bros to see if they could be of help following the storm.

J. Heaton-Jones suggested Quantum might be a good choice for next year's field trip.

Adjournment

Without objection, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:32 a.m.

Submitted 6/7/18, by T. Carlson, HRRA.