

Town of Henniker
Solid Waste Disposal Committee
Twenty-Sixth Meeting: Thursday, September 10, 2009, 7:00 PM
At The Grange

Approved Minutes

Present: Donald Blanchard, Bill Christiano, Amanda Gilman, Lia Houk, John V. Kjellman, Linda Patterson and Rod Pimentel

Absent: Donna MacMillan, Michael C. French

1. 1. **Chairman John Kjellman called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.** and began with his introduction
 - a. a. Just an FYI: the National Recycling Coalition, an organization that promotes recycling, has filed for bankruptcy.
 - b. b. The Chairman thanked the committee members for their continued com-mitment to the committee. He stated the report has come a long way and is close to the end. He stated that the most important thing he needs now from committee members is their review and critique of the final report as it takes shape. He said that if members are pressed with other time commitments it is OK to skip a meeting, but that he hoped everybody would remain on the committee so we all can be part of the final report.
 - c. c. The Chairman reported that he has made considerable progress of late, and with the end of the report in sight he is motivated to get it finished.
2. 2. Handouts: Agenda, Draft minutes of August 27 meeting, Flyer from Recycle America, Concord Monitor article on wooden compost bins, NRRRA Fall Tour flyer.
3. 3. The minutes of the August 27, 2009 meeting were reviewed. **Don Blanchard made a motion to accept the minutes without correction. The motion was seconded by Linda Patterson and passed unanimously.**
4. 4. Reports from members on items of general interest, not directly related to development of committee report to Board of Selectmen.
 - a. a. Bill Christiano reported from a recent Henniker Selectmans' Meeting. An amendment was passed to begin charging \$5 for a 20-gallon bucket of ash. This is subject to prorated assessment for volumes over or less than 20 gallons. Gobin Disposal is to pickup the ash from the Transfer Station. This was initiated because of ash being brought to the Transfer Station from local campgrounds.
 - b. b. Don Blanchard reported on a conference that he recently attended sponsored by UNH on Recycling for Public Works with Don Maurer of NH DES as the guest speaker. He made mention of items of general interest:

- i. i. A breakdown of the percentages of the different components that make up municipal solid waste nationwide. These include: food scraps 12.5%, plastic 12.1%, wood/rubber 5.7%, paper 32.7%, glass 5.3%, metals 8.2%, yard waste 12.8%, and leather/textiles 7.6%.
- ii. ii. In NH, each 1% increase in recycling equates to a cost savings of 1 million dollars. Linda Patterson noted that this statistic had been presented to the committee before but that we still didn't know what it was based on.
- iii. iii. It was suggested that towns consolidate their recyclables for pooling with other towns to obtain larger loads as they are worth more in the recycling market. In some cases only 1/8 of the reimbursement may be obtained for an under-filled load. John pointed out that NRRRA has been working on a consolidation program for towns.
- iv. iv. Glass is difficult to recycle due to contamination (Lia suggested this might be from metal caps) and that the market is really only for clear glass. A discussion ensued as to where Henniker's glass goes. It was pointed out that that the Town used to crush it and make it available as fill, but now it is taken to a facility that the crushes it and disposes of the glass chips.
- v. v. PAYT programs are now being used in 46 NH towns. Don Maurer again billed this as the best and cheapest way to increase recycling but said that it takes about 1 year to prepare the program for a town warrant article.
- vi. vi. Discussed the RSA that is to take effect on Jan 1, 2011 regarding the burning of any processed wood or C&D debris. He stated that towns will still be able to burn yard waste, but no C&D or processed wood.
- vii. vii. Pharmaceutical disposal is a nationwide problem with 10-25% being disposed of improperly. There are federal guidelines for proper disposal of prescription drugs and sharps and needles. The committee agreed that this is an issue that will likely be mandated to address in the future.

5. 5. Reports and updates from members.

- a. a. Amanda reported from Naughton and Sons on their residential business. Most of their residential business is apartment buildings, and only about 5% of their business is with individual households. Their smallest container is a 2-yard dumpster.
- b. b. Business Survey Spreadsheet: Amanda handed out the updated copy of the spreadsheet, which includes the data from all committee members. She noted that there are a few sections that are blank and that need filling in and she will talk to individual committee members to resolve these few

areas. She also plans to review and edit the spreadsheet again before it is finalized.

- c. c. Linda Patterson sent John an introduction to her neighboring communities spreadsheet. He noted that it was on the right track and that he will integrate it into the report.
 - d. d. Transfer Station Spreadsheet: Rod Pimentel asked the committee to review again the changes to be made to the spreadsheet. This was done and changes were agreed upon.
 - e. e. Single-Stream recycling analysis: Lia Houk has nothing new to report at this time. She and John will coordinate over the next few weeks to discuss this.
 - f. f. Rationalized Recycling Rates Chart: Michael French emailed John his chart. John noted that the chart needed a bit of clarification and said he would ask Michael to explain it to the Committee at the next meeting.
6. 6. Review and discuss draft report to Board of Selectmen, and plans for completion of report. Discuss approach to be taken regarding the latest version of the report.
- a. a. The Chairman led a discussion on the best way for the committee to review drafts. He has incorporated the comments of the committee to date. He hopes to have a near final draft to be reviewed for the next meeting. Rod Pimmentel suggested that the lines be numbered to aid in the group editing process.
 - b. b. The Chairman spoke with Tom Watman (chair, BOS) and told him where the committee stood on the report. Tom expressed no concern to John and said we should take the time needed. At the current time the pressure to finish is primarily that of the Committee's own motivation to complete the project.
 - c. c. The Chairman led a discussion on the PAYT section of the report. The question was raised as to what the PAYT bag cost should cover. If the goal is to cover the cost of the entire T/S, the cost might be prohibitive. However, if the bag cost were just to cover the tipping fee it would be much less. Many communities don't include the overhead cost for T/S operation into the bag cost. It was pointed out that this is exactly what people who use commercial haulers are paying for, just the tipping fee.

John pointed out that covering the full cost of T/S operations through some type of PAYT program appeared to be feasible only if the overhead costs of the T/S could be significantly reduced. He said there is a lot of focus on the trash disposal and recycling functions of the T/S, but that a lot of other things go on there as well, such as the Swap Shop and the disposal of electronic waste, propane cylinders, items with mercury, non-disposable batteries, and the like, as well as C&D and brush. These functions need to be funded one way or another.

The Chairman noted that there is a fundamental question about the primary purpose of a PAYT program, is it to cover the cost of the T/S, or is it to provide citizens with the economic incentive to dispose of less trash and recycle more? The answer makes a big difference in PAYT fees.

The discussion then turned to single-stream recycling and curbside pickup and how these might reduce the overhead costs at the transfer station, as it would only require limited hours of opening and limited volume.

7. 7. Next meeting scheduled for 9/24/09 at 7:00pm at the Grange.

8. 8. **Motion to adjourn was made by Amanda Gilman at 8:18 pm, seconded by Rod Pimentel and carried unanimously.**

Submitted 9/16/09

By Amanda Gilman

Reviewed 9/18/09

John V. Kjellman

Corrected and approved 9/24/2009