

**Town of Henniker  
Solid Waste Disposal Committee**

**Eleventh Meeting: Thursday, January 8, 2009  
The Grange**

Approved Meeting Minutes

**Present:** Chairman John Kjellman, Bill Christiano, Lia Houk, Donna MacMillan, Linda Patterson, Rod Pimentel, Donald Blanchard, and Michael French, Amanda Gilman

**Absent:** None

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. and began by stating that the recording secretary was not present and that Amanda Gilman would be recording minutes. He continued to offer clarification of the rules for recording committee meeting according to the Town of Henniker's Attorney. He went on to paraphrase that any person, committee member or not, may record a meeting at will for their own personal use. A committee may vote to not allow recordings a permanent part of the record, but the recording may be used to develop the minutes. **Don Blanchard made a motion that this committee not assume custody nor retain as part of the committee's or town records any recording of committee meetings. The motion was seconded by Bill Christiano and carried unanimously.**

- 1) John Kjellman stated that Stephany Lavallee and Ron Lavallee had resigned from the committee, and that the selectmen had accepted their resignations.
- 2) John Kjellman stated that there would be a guest speaker at the next meeting on 1/22/09. Tony Giunta from American Energy Independence Company would be coming to discuss the recycling of cooking oil from restaurants. He has been working with The Red Blazer in Concord and has been working with Daniel's Restaurant in Henniker.
- 3) John Kjellman reported on a recent article in the Concord Monitor on Concord's movement towards the SMART plan or (pay as you throw) PAYT. He pointed to the citizen reactions to the article posted on the Monitor's website. He noted 4 positive reactions, 9 negative, typically about not wanting higher taxes, and 5 that were difficult to categorize. He pointed out that this is likely similar to what Henniker would encounter should it pursue any of the possible programs, but that this was something that would be addressed at a later date after our committee submits its report to the selectmen. He made note of one particular argument, which suggested that as it is currently, the cost for Solid Waste disposal is included in the property tax rate, and is therefore tax deductible. Some costs of PAYT or SMART programs however, are not property taxes and therefore are likely not tax deductible. This could actually cost the taxpayer more than is apparent on the surface. Committee members agreed that this issue would have to be further explored for possible inclusion in the report.

- 4) The minutes for the December 11, 2008 meeting were reviewed and a few corrections noted. **Lia Houk made a motion to approve the minutes as amended; it was seconded by Donna MacMillan and carried unanimously.**
- 5) Linda Patterson asked for clarification on task nine that she and Donna MacMillan were pursuing. Discussion ensued with consensus that their goal was to collect information on all aspects of solid waste and recycling of neighboring towns. The purpose is to understand what our neighbors and peers have for policies and operations and how this is working. Not necessarily where their solid waste and recyclables go.
- 6) Discussion ensued on the volatility of the recycling market. Rod Pimentel suggested that the committee needs to include in its report, a dollar value that is received for recyclables beyond which it is not cost effective to recycle, and recyclables should be disposed with solid waste. John Kjellman agreed that the committee needs to develop the idea that there is a bottom line for recyclable revenue beyond which it is no longer cost effective to recycle, as this would also decrease the amount of manpower needed at the Transfer Station. The committee agreed.
- 7) Chairman John Kjellman submitted a draft for review of a letter on behalf of the committee to Ron and Stephanie Lavallee. The letter serves to thank them for their contributions, convey regret that they will no longer be on the committee and to wish them well. **Donna Macmillan made a motion to send the letter as is to the Lavalles, it was seconded by Linda Patterson and carried unanimously.**
- 8) Recycling Committee update by Amanda Gilman. She reported that Bob Pennock had the Recycling and disposal mailer reviewed by four people with many years in the industry for feedback, including Liz Bedard. A final draft has been created and should soon be mailed out to all Henniker Postal Patrons.
- 9) Development of the report to the Selectman: It was noted that although the committee is not bound by the specific tasks itemized by the Selectman
  - a. Chairman John Kjellman submitted a draft outline of the final report for committee review at a later date. Lia Houk made note that the tipping fees for the Concord Coop just went up on 12/1/08 to \$45.90 per ton and the billing year runs from 12/1 to 11/30 of the next year.
  - b. History Section: Don Blanchard and Michael French have compiled several pages on the history and they will continue and pass it along to the Chairman for inclusion. John Kjellman suggested maybe a 1-2 page summary with appendices if necessary. It was decided by the committee that initially it is better to include more information, which can be condensed at a later date if necessary.
  - c. Single Stream analysis: Lia Houk has obtained the 2008 recycling numbers from Bob Pennock. She asked for clarification as to the numbers that should be included in the report. It was agreed that projected numbers of the possible future rates for recycling reimbursement based on past rates should be included.
  - d. Landfill and Incinerators: Rod Pimentel stated that he should have a draft of this section prepared by the next meeting.
  - e. Neighboring Towns: Linda Patterson and Donna MacMillan have collected considerable data and will attempt to compile it in a spreadsheet.

Discussion also ensued about Concord's Recycling, which Linda and Donna will continue to pursue. John Kjellman made note of Concord's Solid Waste advisory committee as an area for further examination.

- f. Hazardous Waste: Bill Christiano will describe the current collection system and any possible thoughts on how this could be changed.
- g. State Regulations: Amanda Gilman to compile data about applicable state regulations with particular consideration to upcoming changes including electronic waste.
- h. Curbside pickup: Amanda Gilman has obtained the cost of curbside pickup for 4 towns in the area, with similar logistical issues, i.e. rural and with dirt roads. The committee agreed that the cost of a town run curbside collection program should also be included.
- i. Special Consideration for Businesses: This section should have a small amount of data but should also be referenced and considered with in each option presented.

**10)** The committee is expected to produce a status report to the Selectman for inclusion in the Town Report. John Kjellman will draft this report.

**11)** Future meetings: 1/22/09, 2/5, 2/26, 3/26, 4/9, 4/23.

**12) A motion to adjourn was submitted by Amanda Gilman at 8:24 pm, it was seconded by Don Blanchard and carried.**

Draft Meeting Minutes

Respectfully Submitted

By Amanda Gilman, Recording Secretary

Reviewed: John V. Kjellman, Chairman, 1/18/09

Approved 1/22/09