

Town of Henniker
Solid Waste Disposal Committee
Sixteenth Meeting: Thursday, April 9, 2009, 7:00 PM
At The Grange

Approved Minutes

Present: Don Blanchard, Michael French, Amanda Gilman, Lia Houk, John V. Kjellman, Donna MacMillan, and Rod Pimentel.

Absent: Bill Christiano, Linda Patterson

- 1) Chairman John Kjellman called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. Chairman's introduction:
 - a. Welcome back to Don. John Kjellman to ask the Selectmen to waive absences.
 - b. Per the NRRA marketing meeting in Epsom, and discussion with Bob Pennock, The prices for recycled materials are up somewhat.
 - c. Franklin is moving toward single-stream recycling and automated curb-side trash pickup.
 - d. Noted at the last meeting that PAYT was defeated in Pembroke. What was not noted, was that Pembroke voted to institute mandatory recycling and automated trash and recyclable materials pick-up.
 - e. NRRA is looking at other commodities for recycling: mattresses, and CD/DVDs, which are made of a high-grade plastic. NRRA believes it has a better deal on C&D at Errco in Epping than Henniker's current contract.
 - f. NRRA has sheet showing how much aluminum, paper, plastics, scrap metal and steel (tin) cans Henniker recycled last year, and the environmental benefits. The aluminum numbers are understated, as not all our aluminum went through NRRA.
 - g. There is a weekly NRRA e-newsletter you can receive if you request it. Get e-mail address on website (NRRA.NET). Includes info on legislative action. The bottle bills (HB283/HB675) were retained in committee, as was a bill dealing with residential pharmaceutical wastes. A bill defining electronic waste passed the House, and one dealing with solid waste permits was passed and referred to a Senate committee.
 - h. Bob Pennock said about 30 gallons of vegetable oil have been collected.
 - i. John Kjellman has scheduled a visit to the Lee Transfer Station a week from this coming Sunday. He wants to examine their use of scales, and also a machine that takes cash and creates tickets in \$2.50 increments that are usable at the T/S. Apparently helps considerably in accounting for the cash.
 - j. Handouts: Agenda, draft minutes of March 26, February 26, and November 6 meetings, draft report on landfills from Rod, updated graph on T/S & R/C revenues and costs, copy of Monitor article on COOP S/S facility,

2) Review of minutes:

Mike French made a motion to accept the minutes from 3/26/09 as corrected, seconded by Donna MacMillan and carried unanimously with Don Blanchard and Amanda Gilman abstaining.

Lia Houk made a motion to accept the minutes from 2/26/09 as corrected, seconded by Amanda Gilman and carried unanimously with Don Blanchard abstaining.

Amanda Gilman made a motion to accept the minutes from 11/6/09 as corrected, seconded by Mike French and carried unanimously with Lia Houk abstaining.

3) NRRA conference: 6/8-6/9 in Manchester. The \$55/day rate applies to all members of the committee, assuming someone from the Transfer Station registers at the full rate. You can print registration form or register online at www.nrra.net. No word yet on reimbursements from the Town for the registration fee, but to be safe don't plan on it.

4) Update on Corcoran and COOP single stream facilities by John. It was rumored at NRRA that Corcoran was going to file for bankruptcy. There was no word on that in either the Monitor or the Union Leader.

There was an article this week in the Monitor about the COOP proceeding forward with its plans, although they seem stuck on the 17,000 tons committed vice the 25,000 tons per year needed. Recent towns that have signed up are Goffstown, Hooksett, Milford, and Waterville Valley. The project goes to Concord Planning Board next Wednesday (4/15).

Bob Pennock is also doubtful that the COOP will really go ahead at this time. The full-board meeting on the decision is planned for May. Also, according to Bob Pennock, if Henniker signs a contract with the COOP for single-stream, it is "forever." If a non-COOP member signs, it is for 15 years. Bob told John he says he sees no advantage to signing anything now, we can do it later at no penalty. I asked about bringing the question to the Selectmen, he said the old members were aware of the issue.

John mentioned the idea of continuing to recycle at the T/S as we do now, and using single-stream for businesses. Bob Pennock thought there are not enough recycled materials generated at businesses and schools to make that work.

Discussion by the group ensued with agreement that there is no need to present anything to the BOS on this issue at this time. There is no upside for us to sign a contract, only a downside.

5) Lia reported that the manager of Rush Square approached her to inquire about recycling at his facility. The committee agreed that it seems the business in Henniker are interested in recycling.

6) Lia ran some calculations based on Liz Bedard's numbers on the cost of Henniker changing to single stream recycling. Lia reported that based on these numbers Henniker could afford a cost of up to \$54 per ton before it costs us more to recycle than to dispose of recyclables as solid waste. Most of the savings result from a projected reduction in labor. She plans to continue her calculations on the cost of single stream and contact Liz Bedard for a few clarifications.

7) John asked if single stream recyclables could be baled. Mike French reported that the same question had been posed to the NRRA by another town and Jim Prescher replied that he didn't know. Discussion on this topic ensued with the question arising of whether other towns were doing this and what is the actual cost of balers, wire, etc. Lia plans to contact some surrounding towns for comparison. Rod plans to ask his employer about the cost for their company of single stream recycling versus solid waste disposal costs.

8) Review of T/S revenue and expense chart by John. Updated and corrected, and added a net cost line. He has also started an analysis of some sort of pay to throw program, but didn't get very far. He also noted that there are some fixed costs, like the monitoring of the old landfill, which will occur under any scenario, and so should not be part of an evaluation of alternatives.

9) John asked Lia (long-time chairperson of Henniker Recycling Committee) for a record of what the recycling committee has done and proposed in the past, for possible inclusion in the report.

10) Review and Comments on Rod's draft report on landfills. Group consensus was that the report was excellent but a financial case needs to be made for the fact that a new landfill is not a fiscally viable option.

11) Report development. Pieces are starting to come together. Plan for the next meeting to focus on fleshing out the report, and making specific assignments to collect data to fill in some of the holes. For example, a survey of major Henniker businesses regarding the potential for increased recycling, and also as Rod mentioned at the last meeting, how much they are paying now.

12) John asked each member prepare a record of all the meetings and places they have visited as part of the committee, with dates (as close as possible).

13) Review future meeting dates: 4/23, 5/7, 5/21, 6/4 and 6/18. All are Thursdays, and all are planned for 7:00 PM at The Grange

Motion to adjourn made by Amanda Gilman at 8:37 pm, seconded by Don Blanchard and carried unanimously.

Submitted: 4/14/09

Amanda Gilman

Reviewed: 4/21/09

John V. Kjellman, Chairman

Approved: 4/23/09