

**Town of Henniker
Solid Waste Disposal Committee**

**Ninth Meeting: Thursday, November 20, 2008
Henniker Community Center**

Approved Meeting Minutes

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

On Assignment: Ron Lavallee, Stephany Lavallee – Attending and reporting on Concord COOP joint board meeting.

Also Present: Sheila Mitchell, Recording Secretary

- The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. and introduced the following:
 - ❖ The Chairman distributed copies of an Economic Benefit Analysis of Recycling versus Solid Waste Disposal at the Henniker Transfer Station and Recycling Center spreadsheet that he had designed.

The figures in the analysis were a combination of avoided costs and potential future revenue, he said, but the values were estimates, to show the concept, and should not be relied upon. It was suggested that the spreadsheet would be more useful if it took into account the amount of each recycled item that is processed each year. It was suggested the findings might be published at the Transfer Station, and The Chairman suggested highlighting recycling benefits for the Town and individual homeowners.

- ❖ He provided a copy of a Public Notice by the Town of Henniker of strict enforcement of regulations and policies at the Transfer Station, effective November 15, 2008.
- ❖ He explained that Ron and Stephany Lavallee were attending the Joint Board Meeting of the Concord Co-op at the time of this meeting, at his request.
- ❖ The Concord Co-op is proceeding with plans for a single stream recycling facility, and land for the facility has been purchased, but plans could stall if not enough interest is expressed.
- ❖ Mr. Kjellman attended a presentation by the Co-op in Warner the previous evening. There were about 35 to 40 people there. He learned that people in Warner are considering the possibility of taking a recommendation for single stream recycling to their next Town Meeting.

- ❖ He also learned that the Co-op is expecting to spend approximately \$200,000 for leachate processing at its Franklin landfill. He said this should not have an impact on the proposed single-stream recycling facility.

- **Review and Approval of Minutes of November 6, 2008**

The minutes were reviewed, and the Recording Secretary took notes of a few minor corrections. **Donald Blanchard made a motion to accept the minutes as amended, the motion was seconded by Michael French, and it carried with all in favor.**

- **Continuing Discussion of Committee Reports**

- ❖ Budget Projections at the Transfer Station with Current Mode of Operation

Mr. Kjellman suggested that the methodology for budget projecting needs to be refined by the Committee. Fluctuating costs and revenues can then be inserted as variables. Lia Houk asked if the report might address alternative recycling markets or even extreme measures, such as putting more recyclables in the solid waste stream. She suggested that storage space might be recommended as an alternative. Mr. Kjellman expressed the thought that the cost of such a storage facility might outweigh the benefits. He mentioned that if temporary storage is required, it might be better to lease it.

- ❖ Comparison with Other Transfer Stations

Linda and Donna had nothing new to report.

- ❖ Report by Amanda Gilman

Later in the meeting, Amanda reported some of her research findings.

She had spoken with a staff member at B&A, who told her that they transport solid waste for 13 businesses in the Town of Henniker, and 3 apartment buildings, plus they offer curbside pickup at a mobile home park and in town.

The school is their only recycling account. B&A decided not to expand recycling services because it would have meant a capital expenditure for another truck, and it would not have been profitable for them because Henniker currently sorts its recycling materials and does not include white paper. The school recycles white paper and plastic jugs, and B&A transports the materials to Bow.

Amanda spoke with Tony Ilacqua of Littleton about recycling there. Littleton has their own paper shredder that enables them to process clean, white paper, which is worth more than mixed paper in the recyclables market. Littleton holds an annual

Chamber of Commerce Breakfast at the Transfer Station and Recycling Center. Their programs, led by businesses, have increased recycling to 70%. Littleton has more office and light-industry businesses than Henniker.

▪ **New Inspector-Gatekeeper at the Henniker Transfer Station**

John Kjellman said an inspector had been hired and asked if anyone had observed this person in action. Don Blanchard said he had, that he had noticed a table had been set up where the glass-collecting bin used to be, and that the man seemed to be doing a good job of catching every car. It was suggested that the person in this position might help in collecting data for budget projections and in keeping track of visitors from towns other than Henniker.

Don and others had also noticed that the gate to the driveway into the construction & debris area was functioning and in the closed position. There is a remote control for the gate that can be operated from inside one of the buildings but it is not clear who is responsible for pushing the button. Bill Christiano recommended that vehicles going into that area should be inspected for transporting hazardous materials.

▪ **Recycling Center at the Henniker Transfer Station**

Amanda Gilman announced that there would be a new sign soon to encourage recycling. Also, there are plans to mail informative literature to postal patrons in town before the end of the year. The literature will include a list of recyclable materials that the Transfer Station accepts.

▪ **Preparation of Report to the Board of Selectmen**

John Kjellman distributed copies of a proposed Table of Contents for the report. His handout included an introduction with the specific charges to the Committee from the Board of Selectmen:

The Chairman's handout included a proposed Table of Contents for the committee's report.

Table of Contents

- **Introduction**
- **Summary of Findings**
- **History of Solid Waste Disposal and Recycling**
- **Sources and Types of Solid Waste and Recyclable Materials**
- **Disposal Options of Solid Waste and Recyclable Materials**
- **Steady As You Go – Continue More or Less As We Are**
- **Costs and Benefits of Single Stream Recycling**
- **Unit Pricing for Trash Disposal – Save Money and Reduce Trash (PAYT)**
- **Convert to Single Stream Recycling**

- **Curbside Pickup Options**
- **Special Considerations for Businesses**
- **Options Deemed Not Feasible At This Time**
- **Hazardous and Special Materials**
- **Transfer Station as Off-Budget Community-Owned Enterprise Similar to Water Department and Waste Water Treatment Plant**
- **Conclusions**
- **Appendixes**
 - Biographies of Committee Members?
 - Proposed 1993 Mandatory Recycling Ordinance
 - Recycling of fibers
 - Recycling of plastics
 - Recycling of metals
 - Recycling of other materials
 - Solid Waste Disposal and Recycling in Neighboring Communities

Mr. Kjellman explained his thinking in preparing this report outline. Then he invited Committee members to make suggestions or comments.

Transcription Note:

Minutes of the following conversation have been organized into Q&A format and paraphrased.

Lia: Where are comparisons with other towns?

John: The comparisons are currently under Appendixes, but they might also appear under other sections.

Mike: I suggest adding a section for Mandatory Recycling.

John: Agreed.

Lia: Perhaps a spreadsheet could be compiled to display a “snapshot” comparison of report sections.

Linda: It might be useful to also display the years somewhere in the spreadsheet.

John: This might be placed under the Conclusions section.

Lia: In the current outline, some options appear as separate sections. Would you consider combining them into one section for Options?

Mike: Perhaps the Table of Contents could be refined to clearly align with the Selectmen’s instructions for the Committee. For example, include: Short-Term and Long-Term Costs, Impacts on Local Businesses and Learning Institutions, Impacts on the elderly, handicapped and those on low and fixed incomes. The costs and impacts might be addressed under each section and summarized in tabular form.

Don: Some options (such as those deemed not feasible) would not require an analysis of impacts.

John: This brings up the point that the Committee hasn't looked at impacts as yet, including out-of-pocket expenses for individuals on fixed or low incomes.

▪ **Next Meeting – December 11, 2008:**

Chairman Kjellman said the committee should plan to continue reviewing data, and be prepared to discuss and accept more specific reporting assignments according to the proposed Table of Contents.

▪ **Adjournment**

Michael French made a motion to adjourn, the motion was seconded by Amanda Gilman, and it carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Minutes Approved 12/11/08
And Respectfully Submitted by
Sheila Mitchell, Recording Secretary