

HSWC minutes

1-26-2015

2-7-15 version)

(tasks in bold)

Present: Rich Menge, Simon Dennis, Bethany Fleishman, Martha McDaniel, Todd Allen, Harry Kendrick, Shawn Kelley

Meeting convened at 5:40 PM

Agenda:

1. Citizen comments
2. Review/approve minutes from 1-12-15 meeting
3. Discuss community education/communication in preparation for Town Meeting
3. Other business

Discussed:

(no non-Committee citizens present)

1. 1-12-15 meeting minutes

Harry moved approval (with corrected date); Simon seconded; approved unanimously.

2. Discuss community education/communication in preparation for Town Meeting

What questions/issues have been surfacing on the Hartford listserv / Facebook pages, and in other settings? Answers to these questions might constitute the content for a Forum letter in the Valley News, and become a Fact Sheet available at upcoming events in the town meeting cycle.

a. what's actually mandated by Act 148?

b. what's the participation rate for curbside recycling in Hartford? This is tough to answer definitively. Our data points come from several sources:

- DSM report of 2012 (note that this antedated the switch to single-stream recycling)
 - survey at transfer station of arriving vehicles; 40-65% reported using curbside Town-supported service
 - following the curbside pickup truck on several days, and estimating % of households putting out recyclables
- tonnage estimates of recyclables collected by Casella at curbside on this program: no increase since the switch to no-sort (this might be true even though more plastic was being recycled, since it's so light)

c. do Hartford residents have trouble getting their recyclables to curbside; how many households don't have an accessible "curbside"?

best estimate –about 60 (out of a total of 4,789 “adjusted” households, from 4/14 DSM report)

d. is the hand-sorted recycling of “mandated recyclables” being done at the transfer station profitable for the Town?

It's complicated. Viewed in isolation, no; dealing with these materials overall led to a net loss of \$2,600 in 2013-4. BUT about 600 tons were collected; recycling these is considerably cheaper than the tipping fees that would be paid for putting them in the Lebanon landfill.

e. How will Act 148 be enforced?

Unclear to us, and probably a topic of general discussion at ANR as rules for implementation become better defined.

f. as of July 1, 2015, what is the responsibility of private haulers with regard to recyclables?

Private haulers of ≥ 1 ton must offer recycling pickup unless it's offered by the municipality.

g. a series of “did-you-know?” items for publicity (e.g. Hartford listserv)

- curbside recycling is now no-sort (list what’s pickup up)
- any bin/box/can etc. is OK to hold recyclables of curbside pickup
- recycling – does it save resources?
- etc.

h. avenues for public education messages

- Forum article from HSWC (answering above questions)
- fact list for new residents
- Quechee Lakes listserv (FX Flinn)
- survey
- Town meeting cycle events– candidates’ night, community day
- school district weekly newsletter
- CATV (**Todd**)
- organizations – Lions, VFW, Rotary (**Todd**)
- Hartford Herald

i. our plan for responding to public listserv/Facebook comments and questions

If one is responding as an individual, whenever; if representing HSWC, circulate draft text before publishing.

Meeting adjourned at 7:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha McDaniel