

SOLID WASTE AND RECYCLING COMMISSION MEETING

7:30 PM

January 13, 2010

Parks & Recreation Conference Room
Hamden Government Center
2750 Dixwell Avenue
Hamden, Connecticut

Commissioners in Attendance: Robert Mark, Chairman
Janice Crann
Amy Ruhlman
Bill Sikorksy
John Weir
Andy Wormser
Laura Zambrano

Others in Attendance: Pam Roach, Recycling Coordinator
Peggy Craft, Commission Clerk

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Mark called the meeting to order at 7:34 PM.

MINUTES

Chairman Mark noted that the Minutes did not include the information that Ms. Roach had sent Mr. Sikorsky's Summary through October.. Also, noted by Chairman Mark was the omission of an invitation to all the Commissions to attend the Mayoral Inauguration. There were no further additions, deletions or corrections, and **Commissioner Weir motioned to accept the Minutes as amended. Commissioner Wormser seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

COMMUNICATIONS

Chairman Mark reported that Ms. Roach sent out Mr. Sikorsky's summary.

Mr. Mark also informed the Commissioner that the Commission had received an invitation to Mayor Jackson's Welcome the New Year Party that was held on January 8th.

The Town's Dr. Martin Luther King Celebration will be held on January 15, 2010 at 12:00 Noon, in the Thornton Wilder Auditorium, Miller Memorial Library.

Ms. Roach will resend the link to the DEP website

Next, there was a discussion regarding which Legislative Councilmember will now be our liaison. Commission Clerk Craft will contact the Council Office to look into this. She will e-mail the information to the Commissioners when it is obtained. This was marked as an **Action Item.**

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Next, Commissioner Wormser discussed the article in the Post Chronicle regarding single stream recycling. Ms Roach said she and Deputy Chief Administrative Officer Julie Smith would be putting a more comprehensive article in the paper soon to explain single stream recycling more in detail. There was a lengthy discussion regarding this topic.

Ms Roach noted the article that was also in the Post Chronicle regarding the fundraiser held on January 9th for Earth Day.

RECYCLING COORDINATOR'S REPORT

Ms. Roach attended a meeting regarding the Connecticut Products Stewardship Council. She presented a letter of agreement to the Commission for her to become a member of this Council. This group will work toward the proper disposal of recyclable items. She requested a letter of endorsement from this Commission. Commissioner Wormser asked if DEP is involved with this. Ms. Roach said they are. Chairman Mark asked if there is a website for this group. Ms. Roach will check. Ms. Roach explained the mission of this group and added that they will meet quarterly.

Commissioner Wormer motioned to send a letter to Mayor Jackson endorsing Ms. Roach's participation with this group. Commissioner Ruhlman seconded the motion that passed unanimously. Commissioner Wormser agreed to write this letter. Copies will be sent to the Commission Chair and Ms. Roach.

Ms. Roach also reported that Marty Mador was at this meeting and presented the proposed Bag Bill. Ms. Roach explained that it is proposed to place a five-cent charge on plastic bags. There was a discussion regarding the pros and cons of this proposal.

Next, there was a discussion regarding paint producers responsibilities. State Senator Myer is drafting a bill regarding this. Ms. Roach discussed bills from other states that Senator Myer is looking into.

Ms. Roach discussed the media news release in the paper today. As noted above, Ms. Roach plans to have a more concise article placed in the paper. This article will explain single stream recycling, 1-7 numbered containers and where to find the numbers on the containers. It will also explain what cannot be included such as Styrofoam, flowerpots, aerosol cans, and containers that previously held any chemicals such as motor oil, etc. Ms. Roach added that cardboard must be cut to three feet by three, bundled and tied.

The yellow stickers will be changed to reflect the above

Residents will now be able to purchase their own bins up to 32 gallon. They must place recycle labels on both sides of their containers. These labels can be obtained from the Town. Old recycling bins may still be used.

There was a Discussion of Mr. Sikorsky's report. Mr. Mark asked for an explanation of "Junk Cleanup" on his report. It was explained that this refers to the violation of the bulk pickup schedule.

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Ms. Roach attended a meeting with Trashmaster on December 14, 2009. In attendance at the meeting were Hamden Chief Administrative Officer Curt Leng, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer Julie Smith and Joe Celotto of Trashmaster. The meeting included discussions regarding single stream recycling and the press release regarding this. Ms. Roach reported that labels have been placed on both sides of the recycling trucks. They also discussed the stickers for the bins. Ms. Roach also informed the Commissioners that regarding missed pickups, if Trashmaster receives a call by 11:00 AM that a recycling pickup was missed they would return that day. If the call is received after 11:00 AM they would return the next day. If a garbage pickup is missed the call must be received by 10:00 AM.

OLD BUSINESS

Commissioner Wormser discussed the information in the December Minutes regarding the statement that "Pay As You Throw" works best in towns with populations of approximately 10,000. Ms. Roach clarified that this refers to towns in Connecticut. There was a very lengthy discussion regarding both "Pay As You Throw" and a coupon program. Chairman Mark noted that asking residents to pay more would be very difficult.

Mayor Jackson attended the CRRA meeting. Mayor Jackson will now attend these meetings in the future.

Commissioner Wormser said that perhaps there is a shovel ready program that could address the problems at the Transfer Station. Ms. Roach will speak to the Grant Writer regarding this.

There was a discussion regarding presenting ideas and suggestions from this Commission to the new administration.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business to come before the Commission.

ADJOURNMENT

There was no further business to come before the Commission and Chairman Mark called for a motion to adjourn. **Commissioner Wormser motioned to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ruhlman and passed unanimously.** Chairman Mark adjourned the meeting at 8:52 PM.

Submitted by:

Peggy Craft, Commission Clerk

Old

New

None

Adjournment
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