

SOLID WASTE AND RECYCLING COMMISSION MEETING

**7:30 PM
December 9, 2009**

**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

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

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Mark called the meeting to order at 7:37 PM.

MINUTES

Commissioner Ruhlman motioned to accept the Minutes. Commissioner Weir seconded the motion that passed with a unanimous vote.

COMMUNICATIONS

Chairman Mark reported that on December 10th at 7:00 PM the Human Rights Commission will host a Human Rights Day event "Bringing Rights to Life" at the Miller Library, Thornton Wilder Auditorium.

Next, Mr. Mark discussed Hazwaste concerns. It was noted that we are scheduled for the weekends after Memorial Day and Labor Day.

RECYCLING COORDINATOR'S REPORT

Ms. Roach shared a card received from former Commissioner Allison DeMaio thanking the Commission for their kindness following the death of her Mother.

Ms. Roach will meet with Trashmaster tomorrow, December 10th. Ms. Roach is hopeful that Mayor Jackson and CAO Curt Leng will also attend the meeting. She wants to discuss continuing with single stream and 1-7 recycling. She also has a meeting next week with Laurie Vitagliano of Hazwaste Central.

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There was a discussion regarding the weight of totes for single stream. Ms. Roach said the haulers can't lift over 100 pounds.

There was a discussion regarding a reward system for recycling. Residents receive coupons for money off at local businesses. The discussion included whether this works or not, and the towns where it has worked successfully. It was noted that this is a good alternative to "Pay As You Throw".

Ms Roach will send a link to the DEP website for Recycling News to the Commissioners.

The Earth Day Committee held their fourth meeting Ms. Roach said that as of July 1st, Covanta will be the owner and operator of the trash facility in Wallingford. They will contribute \$500 to the Earth Day event. The top four sponsors will have their names on the banner. There was a discussion of the donors, which include IKEA, Shaw's, Home Depot, and Dexil. Earth Day will be held on April 24th from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Ms. Roach also discussed the activities, which will take place at Earth Day, including Wind Over Wings, T-Bone, the Weather Van, etc. They are also working on having Dr. Mel of News Channel 8 appear.

Regarding the grant for the schools that was discuss at the last meeting, Ms. Roach said the Board of Education Grant Writer and the Town Grant Writer are working together on this. They are trying to pull in greenhouse items. Among the items that have been considered are heating with used oil, rain barrels for irrigation, solar powered fans, newspaper for bedding, etc. There was a lengthy discussion regarding this topic.

OLD BUSINESS

Ms. Roach was asked at the last meeting if lids from 1-7 containers could now be recycled. She reported that only plastics with numbers can be recycled. She added that flowerpots, utensils and motor oil containers cannot be recycled.

There was further discussion regarding different types of containers. This discussion included what #6 containers can be recycled. Commissioner Weir suggested that there be an article placed in the local newspapers showing where the numbers appear on containers. It was further noted that there is a need to rewrite the recycling brochure and change the information on the Town website.

Next there was a discussion regard the ice rink recycling bins.

Next, there was a discussion regarding Commissioner Wormser's suggestions to the new Mayor. Ms. Roach will discuss this with CAO Leng.

There was also a discussion regarding grants for a feasibility study of "Pay As You Throw". There was a lengthy discussion regarding what type of towns this works in. Ms. Roach said that most towns that have done this successfully are towns with lower populations of around 10,000.

Commissioner Crann asked for suggestion s for Earth Day displays, games, etc.

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NEW BUSINESS

The proposed schedule of meetings for 2010 was submitted. After a short discussion, **Commissioner Weir motioned to accept the schedule as presented. Commissioner Sikorsky seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion.**

ADJOURNMENT

There was no further business to come before the Commission and Chairman Mark called for motion to adjourn. **Commissioner Weir motioned for adjournment and Commissioner Ruhlman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

Chairman Mark adjourned the meeting at 8:29 PM.

Submitted by:

Peggy Craft, Commission Clerk