

**TOWN OF HAMDEN
SOLID WASTE AND RECYCLING COMMISSION MEETING**

April 10, 2012

7:30 PM

THIRD FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM

HAMDEN GOVERNMENT CENTER

2750 DIXWELL AVENUE

HAMDEN

Commissioners in attendance: Bob Mark, Chairman
Andy Wormser, Vice Chair
Janice Crann
Gerry Gigliotti
Amy Ruhlman
Bill Sikorsky
Laura Zambrano

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

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Mark called the meeting to order at 7:32 PM.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance was taken as noted above.

APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 13, 2012 MINUTES

Chairman Mark noted that under Communications he said that Talking Trash sounds interesting, not was interesting. There were no further additions, deletions or corrections and Chairman Mark called for a motion to approve the Minutes as amended. **Commissioner Wormser motioned to accept the Minutes of the March 13, 2012 Meeting as amended. Commissioner Crann seconded the motion that passed unanimously.**

COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Mark discussed the Naugatuck and Cheshire data that was sent by Ms. Roach. There was a discussion regarding the size of the toters used in these communities. Mr. Mark read from an article regarding these communities. He discussed the different sizes of the toters noting that the smaller toters might be better for senior citizens. He also discussed the possible need for more than one toter and how that would be handled.

Next, Mr. Mark discussed the information sent by Ms. Roach regarding Earth Day and an Environmental Film Festival. There was a discussion regarding the Film Festival. Ms. Roach's will discuss Earth Day during her presentation.

Mr. Mark also commented on the display set up in the Government Center lobby regarding recycling items. Ms. Roach uses this display during school tours.

RECYCLING COORDINATORS REPORT

Ms. Roach discussed the school tours. She explained that Town Clerk Vera Morrison conducts about 20 school tours every spring. Ms. Morrison escorts the classes around the building, visiting the Town Clerk's office and the Mayor's office. Ms. Roach gives a short talk to the classes about recycling.

Talking Trash will be on April 26th from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM. This will be a panel discussion with four panelists.

Next, Ms. Roach discussed the electronics container at the Transfer Station. She said the Town would pay for the container through their insurance. She said the fence would be fixed. Public Works Supervisor Paul Coleman had an idea to put the pay loader in front of the doors of the container. An alarm system and a light will also be placed on the container. Mr. Mark asked if the old container is still there. Ms. Roach said the old container has been removed, and the new one is in place and in operation. She added that the contents of the old container have been disposed of. There was a discussion regarding a waiver to be signed, and it was suggested that people be encouraged to take the hard drive out of their computers to protect their identities.

Mr. Sikorsky said he was out and about yesterday, and took down 29 signs on Dixwell Avenue. He called the telephone number on the signs, but it was out of order. He also took down nine signs on the corner of Dixwell Avenue and Skiff Street.

Mr. Mark asked about the violation letters. Mr. Sikorsky said this is not going as well as he wanted, but he is working on them. He added that Town Attorney Sue Gruen needs to supply a letter regarding a summons. So far he has only given out warning letters. He said Mayor Jackson has received complaints about recycling being put in trash trucks. Ms. Roach and Mr. Sikorsky said they both feel that people are misidentifying the trucks. Ms. Roach has called the company and they have found no recycling in the trash. Ms. Ruhlman said she has seen Trashmaster recycling trucks that are white; the ones on her street are green. Ms. Roach explained that the trucks are interchangeable. Ms. Roach said the problem could also be that the recyclables are in plastic bags.

Next, Mr. Sikorsky discussed the bulk pick up. Mr. Wormser said the Town has done a great job.

Ms. Crann asked about mattresses. Ms. Roach said she has asked the people in Hartford who are proactive with this and they don't have a date to vote on it. Ms. Roach has sent a testimony regarding this and it is on the website along with several other towns.

Ms. Roach reported that CAO Curt Leng said they are asking the Council to extend Trashmaster's contract. She said they have given us a good deal. She added that we will be able to decide where the bulk and recycling will be hauled.

Next, Ms. Roach reported on the plans for Earth Day. She said there are 70 plus exhibitors, and many activities planned. She will be going to the Middle School tomorrow to decide what will be in each room. She will also be on the radio tomorrow on WQUN at 2:00 PM to discuss Earth Day. Ms. Roach discussed the scheduling of the various activities.

Commissioner Crann discussed the question for the scavenger hunt. The question will be:

***Which of these three items can be placed in curbside recycling: pizza boxes, Styrofoam, plastic bags.
The answer is: None.***

Commissioner Wormser asked who is in charge of scheduling Commissioners for Earth Day. Commissioners Crann and Ruhlman will be there all day. The other Commissioners will be there at various times during the day.

Ms. Roach will be going to the Connecticut Material Management Conference. They have posted a summary of the meeting. Ms. Roach will e-mail the summary to the Commissioners.

Mr. Mark asked Ms. Roach if she had any information on the scale and ramp at the Transfer Station. Ms. Roach said she would look into this.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Mark asked if the Commissioners should discuss toter sizes. Ms. Roach said we are not ready for the discussion right now. She added that if a letter is sent to the Mayor, the Commission should include a recommendation for 64-gallon toters.

Next, the Commissioners discussed and finalized the wording of the draft of the letter Commissioner Wormser wrote to be sent the Mayor. All present agreed on the wording, and the letter will be sent to the Mayor.

NEW BUSINESS

Chairman Mark asked Ms. Roach about the Hazwaste Central report and the schedule. Ms. Roach will send the report and schedule to the Commissioners.

ADJOURNMENT

There was no further business to come before the Commission and Chairman Mark called for a motion to adjourn. **Commissioner Zambrano motioned to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Ruhlman seconded the motion that passed unanimously.** Chairman Mark adjourned the meeting at 8:53 PM.

Submitted by: _____
Peggy Craft, Commission Clerk