

# TOWN OF HAMDEN

## SOLID WASTE & RECYCLING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

JULY 11, 2012

7:30 PM

MAIN FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM  
HAMDEN GOVERNMENT CENTR  
2750 DIXWELL AVENUE  
HAMDEN

**Commissioners in attendance:** Robert Mark, Chairman  
Janice Crann  
Gerry Gigliotti  
Amy Ruhlman  
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.

### ATTENDANCE

Attendance was taken as noted above.

### APPROVAL OF THE JUNE 13, 2012 MINUTES

Chairman Mark asked if there were any additions, deletions or changes to the Minutes of the June 13, 2012 Meeting. There were none and Mr. Mark called for a motion to approve. **Commissioner Gigliotti motioned to approve the Minutes of the June 13, 2012 meeting as presented. Commissioner Ruhlman seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.**

### COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Mark noted the interesting article former Commissioner John Weir e-mailed regarding composting. He also made note of the National Recycling Coalition Newsletter sent by Ms. Roach

Next, Commissioners Crann and Ruhlman shared a children's book they had found at the Experience Corp table at the Farmers Market. The book, titled Save It! Keep It! Use It Again! was published in 1977.

Mr. Mark next discussed the information Ms. Roach sent yesterday. He said that he hasn't had a chance to read all of it, but has skimmed some of it. He said he found the article regarding the town of Granby, very interesting. The article discussed the size of the recycling containers used there. He also noted that in one of the articles there was a remark that "smaller containers are better because it forces people to have less garbage". There was a discussion regarding the various sizes in several different communities. He said there was also an interesting article entitled "Where Does the Garbage Go". .

Mr. Gigliotti asked if there is a goal in the State for recycling. Ms. Roach said the goal is 58% recycling by 2020. She added that Hamden is currently at 30%. Mr. Gigliotti also asked about recycling grass clippings. Ms. Roach explained that grass clippings are a natural fertilizer and should be left on the lawn. There was further discussion regarding this topic.

Ms. Crann said that she had commented at the last meeting that the tires at the Transfer Station had been removed, but she was mistaken, they are still there. She also discussed the flagpole that is now at the Transfer Station, and had previously been at the old Police station.

Ms. Crann also discussed a process of recycling tires into doormats.

### **ELECTION OF COMMISSION CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR**

Chairman Mark turned the meeting over to Vice Chair Wormser.

Vice Chair Wormser called for nominations for Commission Chair.

**Commissioner Gigliotti nominated Mr. Mark for Chairman. Mr. Wormser seconded the motion. There were no further nominations and Vice Chair Wormser asked that one vote be cast for Mr. Mark to serve as Chair of the Commission for the next year. The vote was cast and Mr. Mark accepted the position.**

Next, Mr. Mark called for nominations for Vice Chair. **Ms. Zambrano nominated Mr. Wormser to serve as Vice Chair. Mr. Gigliotti seconded the motion. There were no further nominations and Mr. Mark asked that one vote be cast for Mr. Wormser to serve as Vice Chair of the Commission for the next year. The vote was cast and Mr. Wormser accepted the position.**

### **RECYCLING COORDINATOR'S REPORT**

The next Hazwaste Central will be held on September 8<sup>th</sup>. The Green Expo will also be held on that day. Green Expo will take place in Edgerton Park.

Town Attorney Sue Gruen is currently revising the contracts with Trashmaster. There was a meeting yesterday with Ms. Gruen, Curt Leng, Julie Smith and Ms. Roach. Trashmaster will handle bulk pickup, curbside pickup, the transfer station and recycling collection. When Ms. Gruen finishes revising the contracts they will be sent to the Commissioners for review. The Town will then meet with Trashmaster. Trashmaster is presently working on a month-to-month basis. Mr. Mark asked what the Council passed. Ms. Roach said the Council approved the Town negotiating with Trashmaster. They also approved Trashmaster continuing on a month-to-month basis until the contracts are finalized.

Calamari Recycling is the metal hauler for the Town. There was a lengthy discussion regarding metal recycling. The Commissioners discussed metal left at curbside that is being picked up by passer-bys before the Town collects it. Commissioner Wormser suggested that a fine be imposed for taking metal left at the curbside, since once it is at the curb, it belongs to the Town. Ms. Roach said this was a good idea, but would be difficult to enforce. Mr. Wormser said it would be a good deterrent.

Next, Ms. Roach and Mr. Mark explained how electronic recycling is done. There was a discussion regarding this subject.

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Ms. Roach next discussed how paint would be collected. This will be done Urban Miners. Ace Hardware and Klein's Hardware in Cheshire will also be doing this. She has also discussed this with Sherwin Williams.

Ms. Roach discussed the Farmer's Market and the vendors that are there. The Farmers Market is held every Friday from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

Next, Ms. Roach said she received an e-mail regarding the Annual Recycling Report that is due at the end of September.

Next, Mr. Wormser asked if there was any news regarding Recyclebank. Ms. Roach said Mr. Leng is still interested in this, and would like to have a meeting with the Commission regarding this subject.

There was a brief discussion regarding recycling in Cheshire. They will be going to every other week recycling (from every week), and will be using 96-gallon totters supplied by the Town.

There was a discussion regarding the size of trash containers that will be supplied to Hamden residents. Currently it looks like it will be 64-gallon trash containers and 96 gallon recycling containers.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Mark asked if the fees at the Transfer Station have gone into effect. Ms. Roach said she would check on this.

Next, Mr. Mark asked about the "clean out" at the end of the school year. Ms. Roach said this worked out fine, since Trashmaster came twice during the week.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Ms. Zambrano motioned to cancel the August meeting. Ms. Ruhlman seconded the motion that passed unanimously.**

Ms. Crann asked if the Transfer Station is strict on checking licenses for people using the facility. Ms. Roach said she doesn't believe they are. There was a discussion regarding this subject.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There was no further business to come before the Commission, and Chairman Mark called for a motion to adjourn. **Commissioner Gigliotti motioned to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Zambrano and passed unanimously.** Chairman Mark adjourned the meeting at 8:44 PM.

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Peggy Craft, Commission Clerk