



# TOWN OF HAMDEN

## SOLID WASTE AND RECYCLING COMMISSION

**MINUTES:** The Solid Waste and Recycling Commission held a regularly scheduled meeting on November 18, 2009 at 7:30 PM in the Parks & Recreation Conference Room, Hamden Government Center, 2750 Dixwell Avenue, Hamden, Connecticut. The following items were discussed:

**Commissioners in Attendance:** Robert Mark, Chairman  
Janice Crann  
Bill Sikorsky  
Laura Zambrano  
Andy Wormser

**Staff in Attendance:** Pam Roach, Recycling Coordinator  
Peggy Craft, Clerk of the Commission

### CALL TO ORDER

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

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**Commissioner Zambrano made a motion to accept the Minutes of the September 2009 meeting. Commissioner Wormser seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion.**

### COMMUNICATIONS

Chairman Mark presented the following information to the Commissioners:

Chairman Mark asked about Mr. Sikorsky's meeting with the representatives from Laurel View Country Club. Mr. Sikorsky said he met with them, and visited Laurel View. They are paving and everything has been leveled. He reported that there are presently no bins out. He added that, considering that winter is approaching he thinks this should be pursued in the spring.

Mr. Mark said the good news for September was the passing of the Water Bottle Bill. The October good news was that 1 to 7 plastics could now be recycled.

Commissioner Sikorsky said that he heard on TV that California has a deposit on small cups and containers. There was a discussion regarding the possibility of deposits on small cups and containers being recycled in Connecticut in the future.

Next, Mr. Mark asked what 1-7 plastics mean? Ms. Roach said there could be no flowerpots, plastic bag or plastic utensils. Ms. Roach was asked if this now includes lids. Ms. Roach said that it would need to have a number on it or it should go in the trash. Ms. Roach will check on what are the dos and don'ts regarding 1-7 plastics.

Single stream is still in trial and looks good. Hopefully it will continue.

Ms. Roach will wait until she has the rules clarified before redoing the recycling brochure.

Ms. Roach sent an example of a certificate to Mr. Mark and he said it looks very good, and will keep it for future use.

Next there was a discussion regarding a grant for a school project. Teachers in many of the schools are interested in this grant. Ms. Roach has received 10-12 responses from teachers at all levels. Most were in favor of a green house project. This is a very competitive grant. This grant will be applied for.

Ms. Crann shared an article that appeared in a California newspaper regarding the price of recycled plastic and aluminum. There was a discussion regarding this article.

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

Ms. Roach reported that bulk pickup is done, it ended on October 31<sup>st</sup>. Trashmaster made a sweep of the Town on Saturday and Monday. Ms. Roach said that outside of six or so calls we've been ok.

The Municipal Planning Committee met. Hazwaste Central has had an arrangement with Clean Harbors for \$37.00 per household. They are now looking for a one-year renewal and the price will be \$44.00. They would then go out for a five-year contract.

Regarding the necessary roof repairs at the Hazwaste Central building, Ms. Roach reported that this would be done with funds from the towns involved. The repairs will last three to five years. Commissioner Wormser suggested that perhaps this could be done through a grant since it appears to be a shovel ready project. Ms. Roach will look into this.

In fiscal year 2009 there were 817 households serviced by Hazwaste Central. There were 692 users the previous year. Ms. Roach projected that there will be 927 in 2010. Ms. Roach will look into how the users learned of Hazwaste Central.

The electronics collection on November 7<sup>th</sup> was held at Cheshire High School. There were 827 cars, of which 117 were from Hamden, 268 from Cheshire, 117 from Meriden and 257 from Wallingford. If CRRA has a collection in the spring it will be Hamden's turn. Ms. Roach said that when the law goes into effect, the manufacturers would pay for the recycling of these items. The State has a list of approved recyclers who will do these collections. The State has approved the recycling of computers, televisions, monitors and printers and the recyclers have indicated that they will take non-recyclables. Based on this, Ms. Roach is not sure if a one-day collection will be necessary. She added that recycling bins for these items would be placed at the transfer station

Ms. Roach will send out Mr. Sikorsky's summary to the Commissioners.

The Product Stewardship Council will be meeting with the State regarding a paint recycling program. This program will require the manufacturers to pay for the recycling.

Next, Ms. Roach discussed the tour of the recycling facility on October 28th at Automated Material Handling in Berlin, CT. Ms. Roach said it was impressive, and she provided pictures of the facility showing how the recycling is accomplished. The plant manager took them on the tour and William Capone who Ms. Roach set up the tour with spoke with them on speakerphone answering questions, etc. Mr. Mark asked if the work force has increased there. Commissioner Wormser said that they are working on just one shift, and said there were 20 employees or less.

Regarding the Fall Festival at Brooksvale Park, Ms. Roach reported that there was no rain and it was a great day. Mr. Mark said they fielded some interesting questions but were not as busy as past years.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Commissioner Wormser sent Ms. Roach a list of suggestions for things to be brought up to the new administration. They included:

Resurrecting the upgrade for the transfer station. Bids went out in 2005 and a vendor was chosen, but the project was cut.

Talk to Parks & Rec about placing recycling bins next to trash containers already in place. Also, suggest that announcers thank attendees at events for recycling and add facts pertaining to how much has been recycled, etc.

A feasibility study for pay as you throw in Hamden.

Mr. Mark said regarding the Annual Report, there is nothing so far..

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Ms. Crann said that the Earth Day Committee would like to do a fun activity at the event, and asked the Commissioners for suggestions for a hands-on presentation.

Mr. Mark said the Hamden Firefighters will be doing their annual food collection to benefit the Hamden Food Bank during the first two weeks of December at Stop & Shop.

### **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 Crann and passed unanimously.** Chairman Mark adjourned the meeting at 8:40 P.M.

Submitted by:

