



TOWN OF HAMDEN

SOLID WASTE AND RECYCLING COMMISSION

MINUTES: The Solid Waste and Recycling Commission held a regularly scheduled meeting on Wednesday, April 14, 2010 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
Amy Ruhlman
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

Chairman Mark noted that under *Approval of Minutes* it was stated that the *January Minutes* were approved; It should have stated that the *February Minutes* were approved. There were no further additions, deletions or corrections and Chairman Mark called for a motion to approve the Minutes as amended. **Commissioner Zambrano motioned to accept the Minutes as amended. Commissioner Crann seconded the motion that passed unanimously.**

COMMUNICATIONS

Chairman Mark noted the following information:

Chairman Mark thanked Ms. Roach for sending out the Earth Day flyer.

Next, there was a discussion regarding unplugging electrical appliances and devices when not in use. It was noted that this results in a substantial saving on electricity costs.

Mr. Mark also noted the information that Commissioner Weir sent out on the recycling bank.

Commissioners Ruhlman and Wormser discussed recycling in Germany and Japan. Ms. Ruhlman said that in Germany there are recycling containers on almost every corner. Commissioner Wormser said that one of the reasons that European and Far Eastern countries do more with recycling is space. Chairman Mark said that these countries realize the finite concept of their space.

Next, there was a discussion regarding the article that Mr. Wormers sent to the Commissioners. This article discussed burning trash to create energy. Ms. Roach said that Covanta does this in Wallingford. There was a lengthy discussion regarding this. Ms. Roach will gather more information regarding this topic. She will also inform the Mayor about this service.

RECYCLING COORDINATOR'S REPORT

Ms. Roach distributed materials for Earth Day that included stickers for recycling bins, copies of the Recycling Policy, information regarding the Electronics Collection on May 22nd, Earth Day flyers, a flyer regarding alternate ways to recycle electronics, Bulk Trash Brochures and Hazwaste Brochures.

Mr. Mark asked about the New Recycling Brochures. Ms. Roach reported that Technology Director Dave Richards has been working on this.

Mr. Mark next asked about composting information guides. Ms. Roach said that directions are in the composters, but she will check to see if she has copies of the guide given out last year.

Ms. Roach said that she has 108 composters. Public Works will move them to the Middle School for Earth Day. Ms. Roach hopes to sell them all at Earth Day.

Regarding the Transfer Station and Ice Rink, Ms. Roach spoke to the Mayor and he informed her that the Town is getting out of the Transfer Station business and the Ice Rink business. The Mayor said er that an RFP will be going out. Commissioner Wormser asked if the RFPs include recycling. Ms. Roach will look into this. Mr. Wormser said that this Commission's job is to see that recycling is done in Town, so it is important that recycling is included in these RFPs.

The Recycling Brochure should be finalized in the next week. Ms. Roach is currently out of recycling bins. She will be getting more in May.

The Electronics Collection will be held on May 22nd.

Citizens TV will be taping Earth Day.

Mr. Mark asked Ms. Roach about the Transfer Station Grant. Ms. Roach said an e-mail has been sent to Grant Writer Florence Villano regarding a Transfer Station Grant and a grant for the roof at Hazwaste Central in New Haven. The roof is being repaired but a new roof will be needed in three to five years.

Ms. Roach has been receiving numerous calls and e-mails regarding recycling and bulk trash pick-up.

Bob asked about Ms. Roach being interviewed on WQUN Radio. Ms. Roach said she has a request in with WQUN to be interviewed. Also, she will contact Duane Wetmore regarding an interview on WELI.

April 14, 2010

Page 3

Ms. Roach will look into where plastic bags go after being deposited in recycling bins and what products they are used for.

OLD BUSINESS

Chairman Mark discussed the letter to Mayor Jackson regarding recycling that he and Commissioner Wormser have been working on. Commissioner Wormser feels that since this letter was drafted prior to the Mayor's Budget Proposal that it would be prudent to wait until the budget is finalized before sending the letter. There was a lengthy discussion regarding this.

Commissioner Wormser made a motion that the letter to Mayor Jackson that was drafted on January 16th and redrafted on March 16th regarding recycling suggestions be tabled. Commissioner Ruhlman seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and Chairman Mark called for a vote. The Commissioners voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

Next, there was a discussion regarding scheduling for Earth Day. Earth Day will run from 10:00 Am to 3:00 PM. Ms. Roach said it is necessary to be set up by 9:00 AM, and have everything ready by 9:30 AM. Commissioners Crann and Zambrano will be there at 8:30 AM and stay all day. Commissioners Ruhlman, Sikorsky, Chairman Mark and Carol will also be there all day. Commissioner Wormser will be there at noon

Commissioner Sikorsky said there is more bulk trash out than he's seen in a long time – he has tagged some things and all the things tagged have been removed.

Commissioner Zambrano said she will be away next month, and will be unable to attend the May meeting.

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 Sikorsky motioned to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ruhlman and passed unanimously.** Chairman Mark adjourned the meeting at 8:49 PM.

Submitted by:

Peggy Craft, Clerk of the Commission

THE NEXT MEETING OF THIS COMMISSION WILL BE

MAY 12, 2010