

Recycling Incentive Grant Committee Minutes
Wednesday, July 30, 2014

Present: Mary Jo Nosal, Lou Russo, Bob Gentile, Tom Gotowka, Jim Ward and Bonnie Reemsnyder. Leslie O'Connor was excused.

Meeting convened at 4:41pm.

Approval of Minutes

Louis and Bob motioned to approve the minutes of July 15, 2014. However, a quorum was not present.

Mary Jo presented the correspondence regarding the minutes of July 15, 2014:

Louis noted that Gary had commented that: the survey respondents were likely avid recyclers and only half of those were interested in Pay as You Throw options; and that the beach area had the lowest recycling counts.

Chris Nelson noted that of the three municipalities which applied for the initial grant opportunity, only Old Lyme's application met the specific DEEP criteria. Additionally, his town of West Hartford, received an educational grant of \$15,000 and instituted a town newsletter which can be viewed at www.westhartford.org/recycle_this_trash_that/index.php.

Also provided:

- Correspondence from DSM which provided the contact information of Stonington's Unit Based Pricing Program
- Copies of articles on UBP including one that discussed the Vermont State Law requirement of UBP by 2015
- Survey data summary
- A survey data review by Louis which indicated a high rate of home owner response, and that the majority of respondents get recycling information from the town and hauler web sites, town newsletter and email.
- Possible UBP resolutions for discussion

Follow-Up on Joint BOS/BOF Information Session with DSM

No feedback from BOS or BOF. Committee members felt the presentation was basically as presented in the spring.

Counts: No update from Gary.

UBP Discussion

- There was more discussion on treating UBP as a utility and implementation method i.e. bags or carts. There is support for the current system of solid waste disposal but a real need for good source material regarding what can be recycled.
- The committee discussed cleaning up the waste stream with a possible seasonal lawn waste pick-up at some point.
- Bonnie offered that the committee should determine if the end goals of decreasing trash and increasing recycling would be met with this particular grant and whether the goals would be better met with asking the town to financially support the educational needs the recycling committee recommends (newsletter, video, survey) and the long-term planning necessary to prepare for a new hauler contract.
- Mary Jo suggested that the decision should be agreed to with a representative number of the committee. The decision would be shared with the State, BOS and BOF. The hope would be that the State would see the town's commitment to increasing the recycling goal through education and continued data collection.

Subcommittee Tasks

The Committee reviewed the FAQs provided by Tom and chose to highlight some in the quarterly newsletter. Tom will amend the list and Mary Jo will provide an introduction by August 1.

Mary Jo stated that 249 people have responded to the survey, which represents about 4.1% of registered voters. She will email the survey summary to the Committee. The committee will keep the survey live into mid-August.

Other Business and Public Comment

None

Next meetings

- August 8 at 4:30PM to focus on proposal to BOS and BOF
- September 10 at 4:30PM

Adjournment Meeting adjourned at 6:00PM.

Submitted 8/1/14 by Mary Jo Nosal