

Old Lyme Solid Waste & Recycling Committee Meeting Minutes
February 13, 2023 6:00 PM, Old Lyme Town Hall

Attendees: Maryellen Basham, Jim Ward, Suzanne Thompson, Leslie O'Connor, Karen Taylor
Members of the Public: Cheryl Poirier and Maddie McCulloch

1. Call to Order, 6:03 PM
2. Motion to move Public comment to top of the list, Jim first, Suzanne second, all in favor.
3. Cheryl Poirier briefly walked us through our new town website, to go live tomorrow.
 - a. Our committee needs a town email for the “contact us” portion of the website.
 - b. Add a link directly to the committee from the trash and recycling page. Cheryl needs to have a blurb that will go with the link.
4. Approval of January 9 Meeting Minutes motion by Maryellen, Jim first, Suzanne second, all in favor.
5. Guest Speaker - Maddie McCulloch, LOLHS Senior Project
 - a. Collecting clothes (MS/HS age range), March 4 at Roger’s Lake Clubhouse,
 - b. Will be a “take what you need” no charge; all remaining clothing will be donated; HS English teacher is supporting this project; friends and family are volunteering to assist
 - c. Committee can post promo on our town website
 - d. See Miss Meg’s FB page or Maddie’s school email (Mccullochm@region18.org)
6. Old Business
 - a. Town Hall: Events magazine (May) includes a “teaser” about composting, a link to BST, Katie Balocca is main contact at town hall now
 - b. Suzanne’s TV interview with Jim Therrien (Valley Regional Public Access TV) went well
 - c. Trex update: 3210 lbs so far district wide. Trex website states 2200 plastic bags go into a 16’ board
 - d. Textile Bin: Delivery to OL Transfer station on Wednesday, Feb 15. Pick-up will be every Wednesday
 - o Hold off bin textile promo until we can pull together.
 - o March 1 is deadline for text promo and pictures to Selectman’s newsletter, school newsletters, blog, our website;
 - o Karen to reach out to Sustainable Lyme to share details of BST bin (possible contacts in Lyme are Christina White, Wendy Hill, Diana Fisk, Gavin Lodge)
 - e. Motion to support Jim’s Food Waste Proposal by Maryellen, first by Leslie, second by Karen, all in favor.
 - o Hoping for good participation in Jim’s neighborhood (50’ish households)
 - o Committee to consider survey to OL residents about current feelings on composting; beneficial to obtain baseline data before we more broadly launch composting/diversion campaign
 - o Committee members will try to weigh our own household compost (weekly in lbs?) to begin to establish baseline data for “typical OL household”
 - f. Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Governor’s Bill 6664 Webinar - As a way to influence large company packaging options
 - o Hauler could work directly with company to collect the packaging
 - o Municipality could opt-out completely
 - o Stewardship would run it according to a set agreement
 - o Vancouver, British Columbia is well versed in EPR and saw very little if any price increase
 - o CT as a state is 5th best in US for recycling; however, US is ranked 105th best as a country
 - o 500k tons of waste is shipped out of CT annually
7. New Business - Annual vote for officers Postpone until March meeting
8. Upcoming Events and Other Announcements-None discussed
9. Motion by Jim to adjourn at 7:23, first by Leslie, second by Maryellen, all in favor.

