

Solid Waste & Recycling Committee Meeting Minutes

Date/time: Monday, May 8th, 2023 6pm

Location: Old Lyme Memorial Town Hall

Attendees: Maryellen Basham, Fred Behringer, Leslie O'Connor, Suzanne Thompson, Leslie O'Connor, Eleanor Hufford

1. Call to Order at 6:10.
2. Approval of March minutes: Fred motioned to approve March 13 minutes, Leslie seconded, all in favor.
3. Guests/Speakers: None present
4. Old Business
 - A. Monthly Updates
 1. Town Hall/Selectman:
 - a. Tax bills are being stuffed by a third party so we will not be adding recycling insert.
 - b. Did last year's insert help reduce recycling contamination (with plastic film)?
 - c. Fred inquired about touring the Berlin recycling plant, and other facilities, but has not received responses.
 2. Trex:
 - a. Region 18 collected 4,361 lbs plastic film this year. Lyme School won a bench, finishing 3rd in their category. Region 18 total since 2020: 13,146 lbs
 - b. Summer trex volunteers secured
 - c. Committee to recommend sustainability goals for region 18 BOE suggestions include the development of a district waste management policy, no single use plastics or black plastics, ideas for reducing carbon footprint
 3. Textile Bin:
 - a. No change to promo for Old Lyme Events publication (due tomorrow) except adding a new picture with recycling.
 - b. 370 lbs collected in March, generating \$18.50;
 - c. Continue exploring bin at TWP
 - d. Publicize textile bin within the school district and DRGC plant sale
 4. Composting:
 - a. Committee has been tracking home compost weight in spreadsheet (average 1 lb/person/day)
 - b. Pilot survey will be sent in the fall; continue fine-tuning questions.
 - c. Pilot will go out to a small number of residents for a period of time before sending the full survey to all residents; fine tune it to send out in the fall, including).
 - d. Library Lane Food Waste pilot has collected and composted over 350 lbs of waste from 12-13 families. The food waste has been incredibly clean. How do we promote a neighborhood effort like Library Lane in other parts of town?
 - e. Maryellen to look into a group that collects leftover food from events and distributes to families in need.
 5. CWPM March invoice was reviewed and discussed

B. Slogan/brand update: Leslie is looking into logo design with students. Also reached out to Rotary (Mr. McLaughlin) for future speaking opportunities at meetings. Slideshow, for speaking engagements, to be designed

5. New Business: None

6. Upcoming Events and Other Announcements

A. Duck River Garden Club Plant Sale: May 12-13

B. Mid-Summer Festival: Saturday July 29. We will be at the Lyme Academy, not Flo Gris. We need to buy banner, make t-shirts, secure table/booth, plan activities and promo materials

7. Public Comments: None

8. Adjournment: Fred motion to adjourn at 7:10 PM, Karen seconded, all in favor.

