

# Solid Waste Committee Draft Minutes for Thursday February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Attendance: Jordan Mueller (JM), Bram Litvinoff (BL), Linda Cook (LC), Andy Scherer (AS)

Meeting began at 5:37 pm

Minutes from Thursday 11/9/23 were approved

JM reported having spoken with DPW director, Chris Kaufman, about cleaning up broken links and editing outdated information on the SWC and Transfer Station pages on the Town's website. CK was agreeable to the changes and edits so updates will be forthcoming. Once the removal of broken/outdated links is complete, the SWC would also like to add useful resources, articles, PDFs and videos to the town pages as their content would likely be helpful to the public. The town clerk is able to make these changes to the pages, JM will advise on necessary edits.

BL is looking at vendors for producing durable, metal signs for the transfer station. He will also consult with transfer station staff and the DPW director in regards to sizes and placement. The SWC has money left in the budget so should be able to cover the costs of the signs.

AS brought up the topic of having a paid article in the Norwich Times. The committee felt it was a good idea but agreed that we were not ready to produce anything for the upcoming issue this February.

AS reported on analytics from the Betterbin smartphone app. Since launching, Norwich has more than 100 users of the app, totaling nearly 700 product searches. AS acknowledged that we need to keep up advertising for the app in order for it to be successful and will therefore continue to promote it on the listserv and perhaps create a sandwich board poster for the transfer station.

AS reported on the Styrofoam collection project with Hanover. AS, BL and JM all volunteered at the event. The collection had approx. 235 households represented at the event. Most were from Hanover and Norwich but 20 other towns were represented at the event as well. The collection was enough to fill two 24' box trucks with foam. The financial donations taken to cover the costs for truck rental and fuel were more than enough to cover costs of expenses. Hanover has offered to share the money with Norwich but the committee felt it better for them to hold on to it and have as a buffer for future collection events. AS also reported about attending the Foam Action Recycling Group (FRAG) monthly meeting. He said it was very helpful to get a sense of the foam recycling landscape. There are many well connected people and groups at the meeting. One goal is for the towns in VT (Norwich, Hartford, Thetford and Woodstock) to host a similar type recycling event (perhaps this summer). AS will check in with FRAG at their next meeting to get a better sense of optimal timing. Lebanon is planning a Styrofoam collection for April.

AS brought up that his and Lily Terry's terms are ending in April. The committee will have 3 continuing members but there is a possibility the committee will need to recruit to fill any vacancy.

Carton Recycling discussion was postponed until a future meeting

Adjourn: 6:43 pm