

# Solid Waste Committee Draft Minutes for Thursday, July 17, 2025

Attendance: Andy Scherer (AS), Jordan Mueller (JM), Lory Pearson (LP)

Meeting began at 5:40 pm

Adopt/Add/Change Items: None

Approve meeting minutes from. Minutes from 5/8/2025 were approved. They will be posted as the final version from the last meeting.

## **Plastic-Free July promotion/announcements:**

- **See [Https://www.plasticfreejuly.org/resources/videos](https://www.plasticfreejuly.org/resources/videos)**
  - Andy suggests list-serv posts publicizing website;
  - Jordan will follow up

## **Rename Solid Waste Committee**

- Suggestion is Recycling and Waste Reduction Committee.
- Andy will provide this as an agenda item for Select Board discussion

## **interview with new owner of Betterbin (now Better Earth)**

- Covers 10 towns in Upper Valley; low usage to date in Hanover and Lebanon
- We will distribute a short survey on the List-Serv with the following questions: Do you know about the Betterbin app? Have you downloaded it? Did you use it?
- We will provide survey responses on a Google Spreadsheet on the Norwich SWC webpage
- BetterBin/New Earth renewal deadline is in July; cost has been \$1500
- Funding process is for Andy to ask Town for approval for renewal

## **Plastic film/bag recycling update**

- Could remind people on list-serv about grocery stores with collection bins, as “Did you know...”
- Could consider bubble wrap collection/sharing at D+W, library

## **Calendar of events between now and October to be posted on Town website as PDF, such as:**

- Household Hazardous Waste collection
- Styrofoam recycling (Oct. 4<sup>th</sup>)
- Shredding; events listed on “Secure Shred” (<https://www.securshred.com/>)--UVAC, Coop Service Center
- Tires
- Electronics
- Baby gear exchange a possibility

- Also community yard sales, such as one in Windsor that publicized many individual sales taking place on the same day; Carolyn Frye of Sustainable Hanover organized a Hanover yard sale.
- Windsor has a “Great Giveaway” event also

**List of messages/topics to post on the list-serv: Jordan will queue up messages on topics such as the following**

- Reminder that residents can recycle paint, batteries, computers, TVs, mercury-containing lightbulbs and thermometers
- Size limitations for recyclables dumpster
- No black (plastic) e.g. take-out containers, milk cartons, juice boxes, ice cream boxes
- Repost information from Vermont Waste Not site (<https://dec.vermont.gov/sites/dec/files/documents/VT-Waste-Not-Guide.pdf>)

#### **Purchase of signage**

- 1 “A Frame” with individual letters good product available on “Websterant” or Staples
- Will consider A-frame that holds posters, when need arises

#### **Plowshare**

- We will schedule topic for a specific SWC Meeting and invite interested townspeople to attend.

#### **To-do list:**

##### **Jordan:**

- Create and post survey on Betterbin;
- Compile events list for Town website;
- Post rotating “did you know” messages on list-serv

##### **Lory:**

- Research signage
- Draft minutes

##### **Andy:**

- Schedule BetterBin interview with new owner
- Ask Select Board about SWC name change
- Arrange reimbursement for signage costs

**Adjourned: 7:40 pm**