

# DRAFT Solid Waste Committee Draft Minutes, Thursday 4/9/25

Attendees: Andy Scherer, Jordan Mueller, Lory Pearson, Mara Child

- (1) Start meeting: 7:43 pm
- (2) Add/change item on Agenda: recruiting new members
- (3) Minutes from 11/13/25: Accepted, with small change: "GearAgain" instead of "ReGear"
- (4) Waste reduction events:
  - The Committee is interested in hosting/coordinating yard sales, give-aways, repair fairs, rummage sales. Question is whether we have the bandwidth to take on something like this, akin to the old 5 churches rummage sale in Norwich
  - Andy attended the Reuse VT conference (reuseApalooza), a high-energy event, at the VT State University campus in Randolph (old VTC). It highlighted reuse and repair networks, activities and organizations doing work in this sector around the state. Additional resources can be found on the VT DEC's website, <https://dec.vermont.gov/waste-management/solid/materials-mgmt/how-can-i-waste-less/reusevt>, including upcoming events around VT.
  - The committee wishes more could be done about reuse at Norwich's transfer station. Ludlow, for example, has a 2 bay, freestanding garage as a dedicated swap-shop.
  - We will add "reuse" as a standing item on the agenda.
- (5) Green-Up day on May 2: managing and staffing
  - Mara will place posters at Transfer station, D+W, Library, Post Office, bulletin board by Post Office; we will hang the banner on the school fence.
  - Jordan will announce event and instructions on listserv.
  - Weeks of April 20 – May 1 participants can pick up bags (green for trash, white for recyclables) and mark their routes on a map available at the Norwich Town Clerk's office. Bags will be available during open hours (best to check hours) in the town clerk's office from Monday 4/20- Friday 5/1.
  - Saturday, May 2nd, bags and map will be available at Transfer Station; SWC members will man information "booth" that day, in 2-hr shifts.
  - Participants can bring their filled bags to Transfer station or leave by side of road.
- (6) Betterbin app.
  - Jordan will distribute a survey on the list-serv in 1 month
  - He will also post some marketing materials sent from Betterbins business office.
  - We can repost sign up links using a QR code that is already on the SWC's page on the town website. We can advertise this on the listserv
- (7) Website updating.
  - Need to remove Bram and Linda from Town SWC website.
  - We will update and simplify Transfer Station webpage with links to good sites, such as the District's site. Andy will send Lory URLs of relevant websites.

(8) Signboards

- We will have a "signorama" at the next SWC meeting on May 14th, when we can review text/images to put on signs for display on A-frames. For example, at Transfer Station, we could have a poster in an A-frame by entrance.
- Other signs can be made and attached to the mixed recycling compactor. Using magnets or permanent velcro we can switch the signs periodically with specific information on items that cannot be tossed in.
- We hope Town Service Officer can attend next meeting, as a sign is needed for redeemable bottles and cans collected at the transfer station, with funds going to the Citizen's Assistance Fund
- Signs need to be purchased/paid for by end of Fiscal Year: June 30th, 2026.

(9) Listserv "Did you know" posts. Jordan will update a google doc with ideas for posts he can rotate

(10) Calendar/events: These are a few examples of upcoming events in our area. We can post a link to the Event's page of the GUVSWMD website on the Transfer Station page of the Town's Website linking to the complete list

- Styrofoam on 4/11 in Lebanon
- Earth Day 4/22 (<https://www.earthday.org/earth0day-2026>)
- Green Up Day 5/2
- Electronics and paper shredding 5/16 in Woodstock
- Electronics, Tires, and Big Trash 6/6 in Strafford

We need to promote these on the listserv and other modalities

(11) Staffing

- Mara will follow up with someone potentially interested in joining the Solid Waste Committee
- The Greater Upper Valley Solid Waste Management District is seeking an alternate for the Board of Supervisors

(12) Ideas for the future: campaign to replace holiday wrapping paper with gift bags; RePlay Arts in White River Junction could help

(13) Review action items from Ploughshares discussion at last meeting – deferred

(11) Task assignments for SW members

- Andy:

- Arrange for Green Up Day materials and instructions to be available at Town Clerk's Office starting April 20th and at Transfer station on May 2nd; Assign SWC members to shifts on May 2nd (LP needs last shift)

-- Update SWC website and Transfer Station Website with relevant links

Transfer Station - <https://norwich.vt.us/transfer-station/>

Solid Waste Committee - <https://norwich.vt.us/solid-waste-committee/>

GUVSWMD (Norwich page) <https://www.guvswmd.org/norwich.html>

- Jordan

- Post on list-serv about Green Up day and other events; Betterbin survey;
- Continue "Did you know? Posts
- Work on comprehensive google doc with these posts

- Mara

- Hang up Green Up Day posters around town;

--Speak to potential candidate about joining SWC

- Lory

-- Draft meeting minutes and circulate for comments

- Everyone:

-- bring ideas/examples for posters to next meeting; need to spend budget money for printing by July

(12) Next meeting, Thursday, May 14th at 7:30

(13) Adjourned: 9:25 pm