

Solid Waste Committee Minutes, Thursday 5/21/26

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

- (1) Start meeting: 7:36 pm
- (2) Add/change item on Agenda: none
- (3) Minutes from 4/9/26
 - Approved as written.
 - Andy will check with Miranda and Brita on procedures for submitting final minutes.
- (4) Organizational matters
 - Current terms:
 - Andy and Lory: April 2027
 - Mara: April 2028
 - Jordan: April 2029
 - Officers:
 - Chair: Andy
 - Vice-Chair Jordan
 - Secretary: Lory
- (5) Review of Transfer Station fees
 - The Town Manager Brennan Duffy asked the SWC for input for fees starting July 1, 2026
 - Increasing cost of trash cards hasn't historically raised more money.
 - Andy and Jordan worked as a Subcommittee, recommending a small increase in the annual vehicle sticker cost based on overall revenue. The increase will allow Transfer Station income to remain at 70%-75% of total costs, with the remainder of expenses covered by the general town budget.
- (6) Green-Up day on May 2: review for Green-Up Vermont
 - Stats: 122 townspeople volunteered to pick up trash, covering 56 miles. 126 bags were distributed, 40 less than in a typical year. Jordan manned the Transfer Station for 6 hours on May 2nd and received only 17 filled bags back at the transfer station. Adverse circumstances included cold rainy day and timing vis-a-vis spring break.
 - Separation of recyclables from trash in clear vs. green bags caused confusion. Many participants didn't understand that they needed to empty recyclables into mixed recycling. Next year either explain better or not hand out clear bags and ask people to add collected recyclables to their household recyclables.
 - Appears to be more effective to hand out Green Up bags at Transfer Station Saturday before, rather than ask people to collect them at Tracy Hall
 - Andy still has 25-25 bags. He ordered additional 150 bags for next year.
- (7) Signs for printing (need to be purchased by June 30, 2026)
 - Requests for signs by Paul Albee, lead attendant at the Transfer Station

- Sign for redeemables, noting that revenues are contributed to the Citizen's Assistance Fund
- Sign for pressurized containers: no propane tanks or spray paint cans (empty whipped cream cans can be put in metal bin)
- Signs for paint shed and C+D bin saying "See attendant" for approval
- Signs to attach to doors of mixed recycling bin, based on Jordan's "did you know?" listserv posts and other sources, re: paper/boxboard, plastic, permissible size; sign maybe 24" x 18"
- Holiday sign would be good too
- Mara volunteered to mock up some signs using "Canva";
- Andy will forward his slide deck to her to download and edit
- She will also make use of signs on the VT website, with VT attribution at bottom
- Andy and Mara will form a subcommittee to finalize text, experiment with printing

(8) Upcoming events: Electronics, Tires, and Big Trash 6/6 in Strafford; AS will post on listservs

(9) Next meeting: Thursday, June 18th at 7:30 pm

(10) Adjourned: 9:08 pm