

Strafford Recycling Committee
Minutes May 24, 2016 – Recycling Center
4:30 PM

I. Approved minutes from the last meeting – 1/18/16. No corrections.

II. Old Business

- A. Students from VTC, under Roger Howes, will not be studying compacting solutions for the Center. Our unfunded proposal was not selected. Committee considering applying for a New England Grass Roots Fund. David to research compactors. Dori to write grant.
- B. Appeal for new volunteers – two new folks responded to the request and have been included in the current rotation. It was agreed to keep two people per Saturday minimum. If a youth shows up for community service, possibly one of the adult volunteers can leave, as long as the closing up of the containers still happens properly.
- C. Training on proper disposal of mercury still to come. Dori to check with Ham. Battery Box is now up and running – method for recycling almost all batteries but car batteries, including button batteries. Those opening the center to train the volunteers on batteries and “packaging” CFLs for transport.
- D. GUVSWMD update – Ham Gillett is part-time (15 hr/week) representative of GUV for all the district. Limited support. Will pick up CFL’s and bring boxes for tubes; will pick up 5 boxes of batteries and bring 5 new battery boxes when full.

III. New Business:

- A. Update from Select Board Meeting – Brent was to research a possible lower cost alternate hauler [forwarded to David Harris]. At this point, the committee recommends we stay with NRRA for reliability, with revisions to the current contract removing any rental costs. Dori to update the 2016 budget based upon no rental charges for containers.
- B. Electronics Collection – June 11, at the town garage. We learned from Jon Mackinnon, that it hasn’t been GUV who has put out sandwich board at the Red Barn, but Jon. Dori to coordinate signs for Electronics collection and next large trash day.
- C. Note – change of date for next large trash from what was published in the GUV newsprint – Sept 10.
- D. Peanuts can be taken by individuals to the UPS store in Lebanon. The Center will no longer collect them.
- E. Trip Tip / Youth can-stompers idea – Scott is willing to work with Diane White at Newton School to schedule students (really, through parents), beginning with a class training in the fall. Might need to put cans and bottles to squash into a banana box, for containment. If successful, allow for covered area for students? Possibly combine with grant for compactor. The committee sees it as a win win – educating youth to be better stewards, while saving the town money in reduced hauling costs.
- F. Pots no longer accepted at Long Acres, so we will no longer be storing gardening items.
- G. Training on proper disposal of mercury – Dori to check with Ham at GUV.

- H. Plastic Bin sale! Volunteers should be encouraged to bring out the containers that have been left accumulating over the winter and encourage folks to take them. We do NOT accept Styrofoam, no matter how nicely packaged. Ends up being trash – an expense to the town.
 - I. Special Help for Citizens – we can visit seniors to answer questions about proper recycling actions.
 - J. Green Up Day / Large Trash – successful. Dori to check with the Vermont Youth Conservation Corp about what would be involved in enlisting their support to clean up trouble areas in town.
 - K. Planning for winter – Scott suggested that an infield rake might be perfect for removing snow from the lids next winter.
 - L. Contents for an article for the Strafford News – start planting the seed about the Trip Tip.
- IV. Next Meeting: Monday, June 20 at 4:30 pm at the recycling center unless announced otherwise.