

Salisbury/Sharon Transfer Station Recycling Advisory Committee (TRAC) Minutes

Weds Jan 20, 2021 – Zoom Meeting - 5:00PM

NOTE: Minutes are considered DRAFT ONLY until reviewed and acted upon at the next regular meeting

TRAC Members Present: Barbara Bettigole (chair), Anne Saunders, Casey Flanagan, Peter Becket, Ed Reagan & Ned Harvey, also TS Mgr Brian Bartram & Salisbury First Selectman Curtis Rand (at 6P)

1 - Meeting called to order by Barbara Bettigole at 5:01PM

* Quick Note from Ned Harvey first, is moving soon and will be leaving TRAC, has loved being on the committee, proud of accomplishments and of entire comm. Thanks to Ned for his years of service.

2 - Approval of Agenda - Moved, seconded, all in favor

3 - Approve Minutes from Dec 9 - Moved, seconded, all in favor

4 - Manager's Report:

a) Operations, Development & Repairs - Brian sent TRAC a list of MATERIALS COLLECTED at TS, batteries, tires etc, shows where they go from there, who collects, how transported, costs &/or revenues. Also a CCSMM (Coalition for Sustainable Materials Management) meeting agenda with slides Barb B sent today from last meeting. Brian reports citizen complaints of TRASH on sides of Rt 44 near TS. Staff checking, possible source is TS users, in future possible FINE/FEE to users bringing in UNCOVERED loads. Snow removal at TS is challenging but keeping up. Many recent meetings, including CCSMM, full report coming. Includes next steps on many issues including composting. Most compost facilities do NOT want organics collected from TS's, schools & similar, too contaminated. Casey F mentions McEnroe, has contacts there, has declined in the past for above reasons but Barb mentions at this time with many restaurants closed/limited large scale composters short on needed VOLUME, good time to re-contact. Casey & Brian will revisit. Peter B asked about tire recycling/reuses? Brian says many become fuel oil, plant in MA, also shredded landscape base material tho issues b/c of possible carcinogenicity. Our cost to revenue ratio on tires is very good. Barb asked about the hopper repair, Brian says still pending, a jamming issue but staff is learning to deal with it, equipment is different than previously used. Plastic bag contamination STILL number ONE user issue. Bottle bill legislation mentioned, in progress. Brian reports that CAMERAS at TS now up and running.

b) CCSMM Final Report Summary - Barb reports efforts on many levels, legislative, regional & local, looking at our own ACTIONABLE IDEAS. Textile collection resuming, clothing boxes reappearing, Anne reports on BOX at Dollar General in Amenia, owned & operated by the SALVATION ARMY, could contact them if needed. Other issues including EPR (Extended Producer Responsibility) food waste programs, Unit Based Pricing in the pipeline. Tho UBP still controversial, may become necessary as fees increase statewide for both recyclables & MSW. No one wants to return to landfill.

c) Review of Materials Management Procedures to be provided as attachments - An onscreen assortment was viewed, many would work for us in future or could be altered, working on this as part of other Actionable Ideas

d) Actionable Ideas - Barb B goes over TRAC list for post COVID priorities to be pursued including:

- Signage - Brian's examples & others, MESSAGE OF THE WEEK idea, displayed at TS and possibly other community places, No Plastic Bags in Recycling Hopper info sign very urgent
- Flyers - For brief explanations of what goes where & why, positive messages to help with COMMONLY MISPLACED items, especially needed with commercial hauler customers, haulers to help distribute, may also mail, need volunteers, Barb has checked on possibility of newspaper ads for this but too expensive
- TS website - Casey points out ONE unified website best rather than towns maintain section on 2 websites, all agree, Casey has estimates from local web developer, \$1200 for the full design plus some addl for upkeep, E commerce functions, will E details to TRAC, Brian can maintain site thereafter, towns are supportive, Casey makes motion for creation of dedicated TS website, seconded and passed. Barb B will draft letter to each BOS.
- TS Instagram & other Social Media - Follows from website so will pursue, Brian would be primary, will follow up
- Permanent education table at TS - Probably need to wait post-COVID on this, more to follow
- Food Waste Pilot - discussed & looked at Litchfield setup, big step in reducing MSW, will continue to explore
- Textile Diversion - Baystate in MA will begin collection again, others now re-opening, will follow up
- Swap Shop - also post-COVID, but can post alternatives online, TS WEBSITE, virtual swap shop etc
- Bicycle Reuse - In future too, now outlet now

5 - NO New Developments - WRAP, glass separation, Sustainable CT in future, all in progress

6 - Future TRAC Meetings - Will share webinar reports, new members, Policies & Procedures update

7- Public & Committee Comments - Our thanks to Ned, Curtis reiterates dissolving SSRRRA in near future

8 - Adjourn: Barb B adjourned the meeting at 6:10P

Minutes recorded by Anne Saunders, TRAC Member, Sharon