

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

Regular Meeting - Weds June 21, 2023 - by Zoom - 5PM

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

TRAC Members Present: Barbara Bettigole (chair), Anne Saunders, Casey Flanagan, Karen Lundeen, new member Meg Szalewicz plus TS Mgr Brian Bartram.

1 - Meeting called to order by Barbara Bettigole at 5:02PM

2 - Approval of Agenda - Add welcome of new member to agenda, Moved, seconded, all in favor

3 - Approve Minutes from April 19, 2023 - Moved, seconded, all in favor

4 - Website - Updates & web traffic discussed, all feel very clean, clear fields on proposed online user fee application, TRAC members have vetted it, not for this year but hopefully next, a step forward for our residents who prefer online registration. Brian has the mail-in form up for this year. Anne has already used it.

5 - Routine for New Stickers - TS will have a user guide this year that includes where to place TS sticker so all placements on cars are uniform. Meg asks about color printing expense on this, Brian says necessary b/c of color-coding info in guide. All going well so far, tip fees going up Brian says, 2023 fee increase helps. Plus fee for residents coming to TS without sticker, cost is now \$20 for single entry with proof of residency, a few people still do this, there are no forms handed out at the TS any longer, only from town halls.

6 - Food Waste Program - Barb says we are up to 400 residents & still pursuing larger FW generators. We have 2 restaurants in program & using TS volunteers to pick-up for the short-term, learning more on how-to procedures. Barb notes public interest uptick on FW diversion & more grant possibilities. Toter amounts & timing of pick-ups discussed, at times toters at TS are overfilled. Karen & Barb describe process at Black Rabbit Restaurant in Lakeville. Karen is logging info for future & notes we have some BEAR issues with the FW containers outside the restaurant. So far, all progressing, restaurant staff helpful & onboard. Need to develop system plus find more help in order to expand, difficult for rural areas to collect & transport. Discussing what is next. Barb will check with other towns, also doing an article for the Lakeville Journal. The White Hart is interested in joining in future. A representative from CET (Center for Eco-Technology) recently gave an informational talk there on how to proceed. Others in our community are doing their own FW diversion as well, including the Senior Nutrition Program in Lakeville. TS continuing to develop program.

7 - Ongoing Concerns - Still pursuing glass separation & plastic film recycling, what we can reasonably do in future. Brian mentioned a company using recycled glass aggregate to produce foam product, points to possible future markets, still in single stream for now. Plastic film is recycled at big retail stores but Brian mentioned an article tracking where much of it ended up which was landfill in some cases.

8 - Other Business - Casey working on online user fee registration, says current draft will work well in most cases but potential pitfalls such as diff stickers & prices in the 2 towns, must be careful with details & not create more work for town hall staffs. He anticipates a couple of issues, one is obtaining a second sticker at a discount, system not set up for that, plus issue of renters & caretakers vs property owners, can proof of residency be uploaded, the Square Space system may not allow this. These are 2 biggest issues but want to keep it simple, renters & caretakers may need to keep doing in person as well as second sticker users.

Brian mentions issues with multiple stickers in one residence, some not legit. Anne asks if this is a problem at the TS, sometimes is, think about future solutions if becomes problematic. Also the increasing numbers of out-of-state vehicles with stickers, most are legit second-home owners, but need better confirmation system. Thinking about online user form, anyone with ideas should contact Casey. Meg asks about re-investigating PAYT (Pay As you Throw), which could eliminate stickers & fees. All feel this will come at some point going forward. Brian mentions option of no charge to residents for first sticker but include in the tax base, also a future option. Brian asks about Sharon Energy & Environment committee (EEC) that has some info on these issues, will check on, Ed R reminds all that PAYT resistance was very strenuous in the past & probably still is. More education & outreach needed.

9 - Public Comment - None

10 - Adjourn - Barb B adjourned meeting at 6:13 PM

Note: Next meeting scheduled for Weds Aug 16, 2023 by Zoom

Minutes recorded by Anne Saunders, TRAC Member, Sharon