

Salisbury/Sharon Transfer Station Recycling Advisory Committee (TRAC)
Minutes of TRAC SPECIAL Meeting of March 5, 2024, Zoom Meeting 4 PM

Present: Barbara Bettigole (chair), Paul Bacsik, Karen Lundeen, Ed Reagan, TS manager, Brian Bartram & guest Carol Hawran.

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

1 - Meeting called to order at 4PM

2 - Agenda approved

3 - Sharing ideas about near-future Food Waste & Gen Outreach Events - From March 22 meeting with Sharon Women's Club & Salisbury Assoc at Hotchkiss Library's discussion of ways both orgs might help TRAC mission by outreach opportunities, including:

- a) Setting up tables (with handouts, posters, etc.) at events in each of the 2 towns or at TS to educate about food waste, recycling, etc
- b) Creating starter kits, biobag sales, etc
- c) Identifying people in each town that can help with resources, equipment, tech expertise, education & publicity (for instance, re: Food Waste Prevention Week)

4 - Letter from SSTS, TRAC, and First Selectmen of Salisbury and Sharon - to food waste generators re: Public Act #23-170. Brian drafted a letter that Barbara & Curtis approved to notify food waste generators of the Jan 1, 2025 start date for Public Act #23-170. Brian says letter will go out soon as a separate mailing from the solid waste billing statements from Town Hall go out.

- Brian also noted that the draft included an invitation to food waste generators to express interest in efforts to establish a hauling strategy, so we can send RFPs (request for proposals) to potential food waste haulers. Discussed goals to stay local, setting upstream waste prevention goals.

5 - National Food Waste Prevention Week April 1-7 - SSTS, TRAC & maybe Sharon Women's Club & Salisbury Association will encourage activities and projects during this time (and as Karen pointed out, that week could be extended so there is more time for schools, groups, etc to prepare).

- Ideas for activities include food waste trivia nights, one day food audits and maybe food drives, video presentations from farms, supermarkets, chefs at restaurants, demonstrations of food preserving techniques like canning, pickling, etc

- Contacts have been made to local schools (Hotchkiss, Salisbury School for Boys, Salisbury Central, Sharon Center, Housatonic Valley Regional High School), libraries, Corner Food Pantry. Paul suggested we use Sharon's monthly newsletter for publicity about this and other TRAC issues. Maybe a special newsletter about this? Maybe Salisbury or Salisbury Association has a newsletter.

- Responses so far from: High school (Karen reached and heard from Dave Moran of VoAg department and Brian contacted Lisa Carter, superintendent), Sharon Center (Barbara reached and heard from principal and teacher), Salisbury Central (Barbara reached and heard from principal, teachers, and SOAR director, Hotchkiss School (Barbara reached out and heard from farm manager)

- Website for Food Waste Prevention Week: <https://www.foodwastepreventionweek.com/>

6 - Meeting adjourned

Minutes submitted by Anne Saunders, TRAC member from Sharon using notes from Barbara Bettigole, TRAC chairperson