

Salisbury/Sharon Transfer Station Recycling Advisory Committee (TRAC)

Minutes of TRAC Regular Meeting of Aug 19, 2026, Zoom Meeting - 5P

Present: TRAC members Barbara Bettigole (chair), Ed Reagan, Anne Saunders, Karen Lundeen, Sarah Curtis, Paul Bascsik, Lisa Nauman & TS Mgr Brian Bartram.

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

- 1 - **Meeting called to order** at 4:59 by Barbara Bettigole
- 2 - **Approval of Agenda** - Moved, seconded, all in favor
- 3 - **Approval of minutes from June 17** - Moved, seconded, all in favor

4 - **TS Managers Report** - Brian mentions recent article in Sharon Sentinel by Carol Asher detailing where our garbage goes & other TS info of community interest, Brian will be sharing more with Carol for further articles of this kind. The swap shop has stopped accepting clothing for now, a total mess with needed daily cleanup has prompted this, will try to find a way to restart in the future. Also BB reports that 6 Northwest CT towns have successfully formed a NWRR (Northwest Resource Recovery) authority, he has some preliminary tip fees and rates, MSW will go to a Waste 2 energy plant in Bridgeport. Hauler recycling rates a bit higher due to higher contamination from hauler-collected recyclables, no oversight there, need more work on control. Report on the recent Jane Lloyd event, TRAC members again organized food scrap diversion and education, went very well, 3 bins plus were collected. Event organizers were pleased with results, good community outreach achieved. Lisa commented that all went smoothly with more people acclimated and understanding of the need to step up food waste diversion. Brian brought up how we had long ago talked about glass separation and on that note an organization called CLYNK, available in many large grocery stores collect redeemable containers of all types. The stores have an account and get a cut, money also goes to other interests including the state. There are some interstate concerns since redeemable containers can be purchased in one state & redeemed in another, but as a municipality if we could do this at TS, could be a boon, may need various permissions including DEEP, will be looking into in future, five cent deposits are going up to 10 cents so can be both financially beneficial for community as well as savings on recycling costs.

5 - **DEEP Grant Progress** - Barb reports we are in a phasing in stage with Waste Zero, slow but moving along, focus group reports are due shortly, all getting up to speed on PAYT support, costs & related issues. Brian points out a few "focus group" issues, some info on grant not clear including that we only receive the grant if we do PAYT for at least one year, some costs per bag discussion and being clear that the whole point is to have control about what users throw thru cost but we can include some assistance measures for those who need help, the take-home from other communities is it takes some getting-used-to but is usually successful afterwards.

6 - **Other Business** - Barbara reports that the recent REPAIR CAFE event went well and thanked Paul and Sarah for their help. The education factor on repairing, re-using & repurposing various items was well received. Paul spoke about expanding bike repair next time. Sarah said bike, knife and lamp repair were top interests as well as sewing and clothing repair. Barbara mentions that our existing TS haulers need to be more consistent with their practices to help both consumers and the TS adhere to best practices and keep contaminants down.

7 - **Public Comment** - Anne mentions that aside from the CLYNK redeemables collection, hope we can get back to considering glass separation on its own in the future for all glass, also of the opinion that after a full year of PAYT, if we are able to get to that, users will become acclimated & aware and not want to revert back to our current system.

8 - **Adjourn Meeting** - Barbara adjourned meeting at 5:50P

Note: Next meeting scheduled for Wed Oct 14, 2026 at 5P by Zoom

Minutes recorded by Anne Saunders, TRAC Member, Sharon