

# Milford Recycling Committee Meeting Minutes

September 20, 2011, 6:30 p.m.

DPW Conference Room

Members Present		Members Absent
Celeste Barr	Tammy Scott	Gil Archambault
Bert Becker	Steve Trombly	Dave Bowden
Robert Courage	Leighton White	Cara Brewer
Gary Daniels		

1. **Opening.** Selectman Gary Daniels opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m.
2. **Approval of 8/15/11 Minutes.** Robert Courage moved to accept the 8/15/11 minutes. Bert Becker seconded. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.
3. **Old Business.** Each member had been given the task of reviewing the charge, looking at the current, short range and long range needs and objectives of the Transfer Station and the Recycling Ordinance, and categorizing their ideas as immediate, short-range or long-range. These items were identified and discussed under new business.
4. **New Business.** Members addresses the following projects, previously identified as contributors to increasing recycling in town, increasing recycling revenue, and assessing the capabilities of the Transfer Station to accommodate expanded recycling:

## Enhancing the recycling experience

### **1. Keeping the demolition area open later than 1:00p on Saturday**

- Changing the Demo Contract to provide service Tuesday-Saturday instead of Monday-Friday, would not be necessary if an additional demo bin could be left by Waste Management to accommodate an extension of demo hours on Saturday.
- Regarding our ability to change dumpsters when they are full, it appears that we have the equipment that would enable us to do this, but do we have liability insurance that would cover any damage done in swapping bins? It was also noted that if we swap bins, it would be necessary for our employees to clean the area before the new bin is put in place. This task is currently performed by Waste Management, as part of the contract we have with them. Is there any cost break from Waste Management if we perform this task? We also need to recognize that the intent of this project is to offer enhanced service to our citizens. As such, the need for us to clean the area at our expense before the new bin is put in place may be an acceptable trade-off.

### **2. Moving glass recycling closer to the plastics recycling area**

- The glass recycling bin already gets moved under cover in winter.
- The ability to move glass recycling inside the Recycling Shed does not appear to be feasible, as the space is already being used for metal and plastic recycling. Having the glass recycling bin inside the building is less accessible to the loader that must move the bin when it is full.
- Need to inform people that two lanes are currently available for recycling glass, plastic and metal. If people start using two lanes, what will be the reaction of those “trapped” in the inner lane by those in the outer lane who have not yet finished disposing of their recyclables?

### **3. Creating a smoother driving surface at the Transfer Station**

- What logistics, resources and material are needed to accomplish this?

## Educating the public

### **4. Labels do not have to be removed from plastic bottles and glass**

- The information board at the Transfer Station is already being used to inform the public.
- Public service announcements could be displayed via PEG access TV.
- The recycling brochure should be updated to reflect this information.
- Could the Town Planner calendar (Perry Spearman) be used to inform the public?

### **5. Plastic bags (i.e. grocery) can be recycled at the Still Good Shed**

- The information board at the Transfer Station is already being used to inform the public.
- Public service announcements could be displayed via PEG access TV.
- The recycling brochure should be updated to reflect this information.

### **6. Recycling handouts need to be reconciled with the Recycling Ordinance**

- Do changes need to be made to the ordinance?

### **7. Set up a box for distribution of educational literature**

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### **8. Establish a recycling presence at town events (i.e. Pumpkin Festival)**

- Corporate demos?
- Recycling containers?

## Facility enhancement recommendations

- (short – long range) Reconfigure the weight house for efficiency and productivity
- (short – long range) Enlarge the Still Good Shed
- (short – long range) Chipping versus burning
- (long range) Upgrade the scales
- (long range) Upgrade older recycling equipment

### **5. Action Items:**

- Tammy Scott will contact Waste Management regarding the ability to leave a “spare” demo bin that can be used if needed to accommodate extension of demo hours on Saturday.
- Leighton White and Steve Trombly will seek a meeting with Rick Riendeau to discuss possible solutions to creating a smoother driving surface at the Transfer Station.
- Gary Daniels will develop a public service announcement that informs residents that they do not need to remove labels from plastic or glass and that plastic bags (i.e. grocery) can be recycled at the Still Good Shed.
- Tammy Scott will contact Perry Spearman regarding the potential of using the Town Planner calendar for informing the public that they do not need to remove labels from plastic or glass and that plastic bags (i.e. grocery) can be recycled at the Still Good Shed.

6. **Next Meeting.** The next Recycling Committee meeting will be on Tuesday, October 18, at 6:30p at the DPW Conference Room on South Street.

7. **Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Gary L. Daniels  
Representative to the Board of Selectmen