

Milford Recycling Committee Meeting Minutes

April 21, 2015, 6:30 p.m.

MPD Conference Room

Members Present	Members Present	Members Absent	Guests
Gil Archambault	Jerry Guthrie	Dave Bowden	Traci Dorsey
Celeste Barr	George Hoyt	Robert Courage	Diane Varney-Parker
Bert Becker	Tammy Scott	Steve Trombly	
Gary Daniels, Selectman		Leighton White	

1. **Opening**

- The meeting opened at 6:30 p.m.

2. **Approval of Minutes**

- Minutes of March 2015 were presented for approval. All were in favor and the minutes were accepted.

3. **Old Business**

• **Committee Reappointments**

- Jerry Guthrie has been sworn in again. Dave Bowden, and Steve Trombly can be reappointed for another term. Diane was asked to join the committee as well. Each member can be sworn in anytime during office hours at the Town Clerk's office after 3/27/15.

• **School Recycling News**

- **Milford Middle School** - A question was asked about whether using shredded paper in compost piles was safe. Newsprint and other paper is safe to use as mulch or in compost. Avoid using colored or glossy papers in composting.
- **Earth Day environmental Event** - Diane and Traci are planning an environmental event at the Milford Middle School Library for the entire 6th grade either the week of May 11th or June 5 or 12th. They will be seeking participants to provide interesting and fun activities for the students to flow through. Celeste will hope to help. Amy Conley of Milford has offered to help. Diane and Traci have set up a community garden, a composting "earth Machine" unit for receiving kitchen waste from the MMS kitchen. They have student monitors that oversee recycling in the MMS cafeteria. They have secured additional recycling bins that the SAU had in storage for use in MMS. They have also learned that juice boxes and milk cartons can be recycled as part of the single stream recycling pickup at the School District and they have setup a decorated recycling bin for those materials in the cafeteria. This will reduce the amount of waste in the lunch room. Diane submitted a grant proposal to State Farm for a recycling grant. She and several students will be attending the NH Recycling Conference June 8-9th. June 9th is primarily focused on School Recycling activities. Tammy will be attending the conference too.
- **MHS Recycling** - George has an advisor Mr. Bryan Field, lined up for a new recycling club. Mr. Field would like to start the club in Fall 2015. In the mean time, George will visit MMS to see their milk carton recycling container, get permission to set one up at MHS and talk to office and custodians about emptying it into the single stream recycling dumpster.

• **Composter sales**

- The Earth Machine composters have been delivered to Beaver Brook Association. Only 20 were ordered (between Hollis and Milford) but only 20 were ordered by the entire City of Nashua too. There are extras available at wholesale cost through Beaver Brook Nature Center.

- Tammy and Celeste reported lots of inquiries and interest in Earth Machine composters but relatively low sales. There will probably be more interest when the snow melts and during summer.

- **Still Good Shed**

- The Still Good Shed has reopened at the Milford Transfer Station.

- **Public Recycling Containers in Town Parks**

- Tammy anticipates painting of the recycling containers to be finished soon. She hopes they will be distributed in another week: three (3) to Emerson Park and three (3) to Keyes Field.

4. **New Business.**

- **Revolving Fund**

- Members asked Gary to find out the wording necessary for a warrant article to create a Revolving Fund for Transfer Station.

- **Sludge Hauling payments**

- Gary has spoken to Mark Bender about the Transfer Station being reimbursed for sludge hauling activities they undertake for the Wastewater Department. Many committee members feel that this funding should go back into the Transfer Station budget. Funding could be used for public recycling containers, new signs, etc.

- **Plastic Grocery Bags**

- Celeste will begin drafting a letter for committee to review that will request area grocery stores to create financial incentives (\$.05 or .10 per bag rebates) for every reusable bag brought to store in an effort to reduce consumption and littering by single use grocery stores. Most members agreed with this idea rather than attempting a municipal ban on plastic bags. We will research the % of grocery bags actually being recycled

5. **Action Items:**

- Celeste Barr will draft meeting minutes and distribute to members prior to the next meeting.
- Celeste will request Milford Improvement Team fund a few containers for the Oval that are in character with the oval.
- Celeste will begin drafting a letter for the committee to review that will request area grocery stores to create financial incentives for customers to use reusable bags.
- Celeste and Gary, collectively will forward all past meeting minutes (August 2014-present) to Rick Riendeau, Mark Bender, and Mike McInerney (for town website).

6. **Next Meeting.** The next regular meeting of the Recycling Committee will be on Tuesday, May 19, 2015 at 6:30p at the Milford Police Station Conference Room.

7. **Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Celeste Philbrick Barr
Recycling Committee Secretary