

Milford Recycling Committee Meeting Minutes

August 18, 2015, 6:30 p.m.

MPD Conference Room

Members Present	Members Present	Members Absent	Guests
Gil Archambault	Jerry Guthrie	Celeste Barry	Mark Bender
Bert Becker	George Hoyt	Robert Courage	
David Bowden	Tammy Scott, Staff Rep.	Steve Trombly	
Gary Daniels, Selectman	Leighton White	Diane Varney-Parker	

1. Opening

- **Gary Daniels** introduced the guest, Town Administrator **Mark Bender**, to the Recycling Committee members at 6:25pm.
- After introductions, **Gary Daniels** called the meeting to order at 6:36 pm.

2. Approval of Minutes

- **Gil Archambault** moved to accept both the meeting minutes of June and July, **Jerry Guthrie** seconded. All members present were in favor. Motion passed 8-0.

3. Old Business.

Committee Reappointments

- **George Hoyt, Diane Varney-Parker , David Bowden** have been sworn in. Uncertain if **Steve Trombly** has been sworn in.

Public Recycling Containers Update

- **Tammy Scott** reported that she has only 6 recycling containers, placed in their various location, and 10 new lids future containers. She reported that more recycling containers have been purchased, with the respective help of the Milford Improvement Team. Approximately 5 new barrows are needed critically by the Milford Oval.
- **Tammy Scott** suggested an art contest at the schools for the Public Recycling Containers, maybe **Diane-Varney Parker** would be interesting in the art contest project.
- **Mark Bender** noted that if the Transfer Station needs any more tops and containers, money can be allocated. He said that "all you have to do is ask".

4. New Business.

School Recycling Initiative

- **George Hoyt** brought up concerns over his new recently formed group at Milford High School, citing that a student within the group wanted to be affiliated with a partisan political action committee (NextGen Climate Action PAC), and **George** also cited **Gary Daniels'** original concerns that the

environmental focus of this high school group may exceed the scope of the charge of the Solid Waste/Recycling Committee.

- Gary Daniels agreed, both Mark Bender and Gary Daniels suggested that George Hoyt talk one on one with the MHS Environmental Club advisor, Bryan Field, about focusing on recycling more than environmentalism.
- But Mark Bender suggested that Environmentalism is just as important. George Hoyt also re-reported the club has nearly twenty members already pre-signed up. The club will be starting when school resumes session in the fall.
- George Hoyt suggested a partnership with the Middle School and High School recycling/environmental clubs to help unify causes

School Recycling Policy Draft

- **Diane Varney-Parker** was absent, so the subject of school recycling policy draft could not be reported.

Revolving Fund Issue

- For several months **George Hoyt** and **Bob Courage** have advocated for a separate revolving fund so the Transfer Station can better manage itself to promote expansion, and to prevent micromanagement of funds by higher-ups on recycling matters.
- **Town Administrator Mark Bender** stated that "no one asked for additional funds or equipment to expand the transfer station". **Mark Bender** suggested that the Recycling Committee make a request to him for any needed funds before considering the establishment of a revolving fund. **Mark Bender** also said that funds removed from the general fund for the Recycling Revolving Fund would have to be replaced via tax increases to accommodate for the loss. **George Hoyt** responded to these comments as the Transfer Station would have more control of its department and having a revolving fund would prevent centralism in funds, and it would ensure the growth of the transfer station. In addition, **George** said the general fund should be cut instead of increasing taxes to supplement the loss. **David Bowden** felt we should follow **Mark Bender's** proposal and work with the Town Administrator before establishing a revolving fund. **George Hoyt responded** "Without a revolving fund unnecessary bureaucracy is in place" and **George** mentioned that the majority of the committee was for the revolving fund until **Mark Bender** showed up.
- **Leighton White** left the meeting before the end of the discussion.
- **David Bowden** moved to table the Revolving Fund issue for one year, **Gil Archambault** seconded. Passed 6-1, **George Hoyt** dissented.

Separation of the Transfer Station from DPW

- Last meeting, **George Hoyt** suggested that the Transfer Station needed to be separated from the Transfer Station for "obvious reasons". **Town Administrator Mark Bender** asked what those "obvious reasons" were. **George Hoyt** stated that "DPW should be more focused on fixing the roads than Recycling issues, and to prevent micromanaging from DPW..." **Town Administrator Mark Bender** noted that the DPW has already paid for a company to take pictures of the roads to better help repair them, and with that software they are also able to keep track of recycling containers around

Town..." **David Bowden** moved to table this issue for another year, **Gil Archambault** second. Passed 6-1, **George Hoyt** being in the dissent.

Committee Officers

- At the last meeting, **Gil Archambault** requested that the election of officers be discussed at this meeting. No members that were present wanted to be Chair, nor did the majority of members think it was necessary. The committee supported continuing to let **Gary Daniels** facilitate the meeting. In cases of **Daniels'** absence, **David Bowden** will be responsible for the minutes/procedure for the meeting. **George Hoyt** will be doing secretarial work.

5. Action Items

- **George Hoyt** will talk with the MHS Environmental Club advisor, Bryan Field, about combining any focus on recycling with the Town's Recycling Committee's efforts to increase recycling.
- **George Hoyt** will distribute the meeting's minutes to members for review prior to the September meeting.

6. Next Meeting.

- The next regular meeting of the Recycling Committee will be on Tuesday, September 15, 2015 at 6:30p at the Milford Police Station Conference Room.

7. Adjournment

- **Jerry Guthrie** moved to adjourn. **Gil Archambault** seconded. The motion passed 7-0 and the meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

George Hoyt

Secretary for Town of Milford, Recycling and Solid Waste Committee