

# Milford Recycling Committee Meeting Minutes

August 16, 2016, 6:30 p.m.

MPD Conference Room

Members Present	Members Present	Members Absent	Guests
Gil Archambault	Jerry Guthrie	Dave Bowden	Mark Bender, Town Admin.
Celeste Barr	George Hoyt	Robert Courage	Rick Riendeau, DPW Dir.
Bert Becker	Tammy Scott	Leighton White	
Gary Daniels, Selectman		Diane Varney-Parker	

1. **Opening.**

- Selectman Gary Daniels opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

2. **Approval of Minutes**

- George Hoyt moved to approve the minutes of July 19, 2016. Bert Becker seconded. All were in favor and the motion passed.

3. **Old Business.**

**Action Item Update**

- Gary Daniels will draft meeting minutes and distribute to members prior to the next meeting. **Done.**
- Gary Daniels will provide approved minutes to the Town Administrator, the DPW Director, and the Community Media Director, who will post them on the town website. **Done.**
- The committee will decide whether or not to move its meeting to the BOS room. **Done.**

4. **New Business**

**Granite Town Media – Future Recycling Committee Meetings**

- Beginning in September 2016, Recycling Committee meetings will be held in the Board of Selectmen (BOS) Room for ease in broadcasting by Granite Town Media.

**Public Recycling Containers Update**

- Coordination with DPW
  - Jerry Guthrie will coordinate with DPW employee Troy Swanick, who is the contact person for trash and recycling barrels in the parks, regarding the placement and movement of recycling barrels. It is expected that should DPW wish to relocate any recycling barrels, Mr. Swanick will contact Mr. Guthrie. The Recreation Department commonly requests a higher concentration of barrels in some areas when events occur.
  - The final intent is to have a recycling barrel paired with a trash barrel so as to encourage recycling and provide that opportunity to residents.
  - DPW collects trash and recyclables on Monday and Thursday each week.
  - Lanyards have been repaired on recycling barrels and sandbags placed in the barrels for weight.
  - Recycling barrels should have the top edge smoothed out so as not to rip bags when barrels are emptied.
  - Greatest need right now is for additional recycling barrels at the MCAA fields on North River Road.

## **School Recycling Initiative**

- **Milford Middle School**
  - Diane Varney-Parker's article entitled "Top Ways to Reduce Waste" appeared in the Cabinet (newspaper)
  - Approval has been given to allow the "water bottle sculpture" at Milford Middle School to remain.
- **Milford High School Environmental Club**
  - No report.
- **Miscellaneous Recycling**
  - Tammy Scott reported that a \$500 grant from NH the Beautiful had been approved for the purchase of recycling barrel lids.
  - NH the Beautiful has also chosen the Town of Milford to be a recipient of a retired mobile recycling station. This will be very useful for events like the Pumpkin Festival.

## **Pay As You Throw (PAYT) Evaluation**

- The committee started discussing the advantages and disadvantages of the Pay As You Throw (PAYT) program, focusing on questions that were raised at the last meeting.
- Questions
  - Who would enforce the program?
    - Town Administrator Bender stated that enforcement should not be necessary since there was a financial incentive for recycling.
    - Some concern was raised that we would be sending a message that it didn't matter if people recycled as long as they paid to dispose of their recyclables.
    - Comments were made that there is no enforcement now, even though the recycling program is mandatory at the Transfer Station.
  - How would the program be enforced?
  - What liability would be introduced if employees inspected bags?
  - How much subjectivity would be introduced into bag inspections?
    - Tammy Scott stated that at one time employees could inspect bags. That stopped when someone alleged an invasion of privacy, which raised the question as to when items left at the Transfer Station (trash or otherwise) are no longer the property of those disposing of the items.
    - Some discussion, though no final solution.
  - Where would residents be able to purchase PAYT bags?
    - Some suggestions identified the Transfer Station, Town Hall, the Department of Public Works and local merchants.
  - What would be the cost of the bags?
    - Not discussed.
  - With the expectation that clear bags would be used, how will trash compactor bags be handled?
    - It was suggested that we find out how other PAYT towns handle this.
  - Will curbside pickup be implemented? At what cost?
    - Not discussed, but the consensus seemed to be that curbside pickup would be costly, and therefore not be considered.
  - Will the Transfer Station budget be reduced by the expected revenue generated by PAYT?
    - The expectation would be that the town budget would be reduced by the expected revenue from a PAYT program.
  - How can the financial aspects of PAYT be conveyed to taxpayers?
    - Not thoroughly discussed, though it was noted that the Annual Town Reports reflect the solid waste and recycling material tonnage for the year. Using previous Town Reports, trends could be tracked.
  - How can we encourage the use of plastic bags via PAYT at the same time we are trying to reduce the amount of plastic going into the solid waste stream.

- Biodegradable bags can be used. At what cost?
- How will commercial hauling be handled?
  - It was suggested that we find out how other PAYT towns handle this.
- Committee members were encouraged to continue their own research on PAYT and be prepared at the next Recycling Committee meeting to further discuss advantages and disadvantages of the program.
- The committee agreed that it would be helpful for someone from a town who has been a participant in the PAYT program to attend a future Recycling Committee meeting to answer questions.

5. **Other items not on the agenda:**

- None

6. **Action Items:**

- Gary Daniels will draft meeting minutes and distribute to members prior to the next meeting.
- Gary Daniels will provide approved minutes to the Town Administrator, the DPW Director, and the Community Media Director, who will post them on the town website.
- Gary Daniels will cancel the reservations for use of the Police Department Conference Room for future Recycling Committee meetings.

7. **Next Meeting.** The next regular meeting of the Recycling Committee will be on Tuesday, September 20, 2016 at 6:30p at the Board of Selectmen Room.

8. **Adjournment:** George Hoyt moved to adjourn the meeting. Jerry Guthrie seconded. All were in favor and the motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

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