

BURRILLVILLE RUBBISH AND RECYCLING MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Place: Conference Room, JSM Library
Meeting Date: November 3, 2009
Meeting Time: 7:00 PM

Members Present:

Donald Fox
Colleen Joubert
Robyn Volpini

Wallace F. Lees, Town Council Liaison
Greg Mislick

Members Absent:

Michael C. Wood, Town Manager
Christine Mulligan

John Michael Karmozyn Jr. Town Council Liaison

Staff/Consultants Present:

Gina Barbeau, Recycling Coordinator for the Town of Smithfield

Others:

Michelle Bodessa, Resident

Lynn Blanchard, Resident

Call To Order:

Wallace Lees called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

Approval of Minutes:

Colleen Joubert made a motion to skip meeting minutes because there were no meeting minutes to approve. The motion was seconded by Donald Fox and the vote was unanimously approved.

Invoices/Bills to be discussed:

None.

Citizen Comment: Michelle Bodessa made a comment about Coastal, the town hauler. She notices the barrels are always over on their side once emptied and she also notices more trash around town since Coastal took over the hauling contract.

Election of Officers:

Colleen Joubert nominated Donald Fox for the office of Chairman. The nomination was seconded by Robyn Volpini and the vote was unanimously approved.

Robyn Volpini nominated Colleen Joubert for the office of Vice Chairman. The nomination was seconded by Donald Fox and the vote was unanimously approved.

Colleen Joubert nominated Robyn Volpini for the office of Secretary. The nomination was seconded by Donald Fox and the vote was unanimously approved.

Appointments of Subcommittees:

None.

Consultant/Staff Reports:

None.

Old Business to be discussed and acted on: Due to not full attendance, it was difficult to come up with a set schedule for the meetings. Don suggested to table it until next meeting. Meanwhile, he requested to have everyone look at the current schedule of meetings and start suggesting days that may work. So far, Tuesdays and Thursdays will not work for all.

New Business to be discussed and acted on:

Correspondence:

- 1). Gina Barbeau from the Town of Smithfield recycling program came to speak about the "No Bin No Barrel" program that was implemented.

Their current hauler is MTG. Coastal was the hauler when No Bin, No Barrel was originally implemented.

Upon introducing the No Bin No Barrel approach, the town saw recycling rate immediately go from 18-19% to 21%. Now they are around 26% consistently.

One way they moved toward educating the residents is hanging literature on every door knob in town.

Some obstacles they continually face are some residents feel exempt, due to being elderly or if they normally recycle. Also, haulers tend to be lenient and take barrels even if no bin out. The town of Smithfield provides wheeled recycling containers for the elderly.

- 2). Discussion, consideration and action relative to Whipple Avenue tour and renovations.

Don Fox will talk to Mike Wood about scheduling a tour of the facility.

Colleen expressed concern about the renovations that are in process and if they are acceptable for future expansion of recycling.

Discussion about the proposed renovations at the Whipple Ave site are needed to determine if it would be feasible to expand capacity for items that are not accepted at RIRRC, (for example, plastics #'s 3-7, packing peanuts, etc.). Do the renovations provide a "window of opportunity" that could coincide with recycling improvements?

Robyn Volpini said she would contact Sara Kite from RIRRC to find out about the future expansion of the recycling program to see if/when they will accept more than 1 and 2 plastics.

Don Fox mentioned that he would look into getting a wood chipper.

- 3). It was unanimously agreed upon that the Town of Burrillville, Chapter 22 Solid Waste-Article II Recycle ordinances was accurate.

- 4). No Bin No Barrel approach.
After getting some feedback from Gina Barbeau, most felt that this is a logical next step to increase recycling in town. Colleen said that it may not be aggressive enough of an approach and would still like to discuss perhaps skipping this and going directly to PAYT (Pay as you throw).

The group discussed that whichever approach we choose, education will play a large role. Especially school children. Education would be targeted to the elementary level, but interested high school and middle school students could be a source for leadership and education as "recycling ambassadors." Additionally, elders are a demographic that might require targeted education.

- 5). The group is unanimously in favor of the agenda format.
- 6). At this time, there is no discussion, consideration needed or action relative to reports, to the Town Council/Administration.

General Discussion:

Don Fox suggested collecting more information from neighboring towns that have the No Bin No Barrel Program.

Don Fox would contact the recycling coordinator from North Smithfield, while Colleen would do the same for East Providence and Robyn Volpini will contact the Town of Cumberland recycling coordinator.

Executive Session:

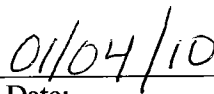
None.

Adjournment:

On a motion by Donald Fox seconded by Colleen Joubert, the meeting was adjourned at 8:28 PM.

Minutes approved by:


Robyn Volpini, Secretary


Date:

Date filed with Town Clerk: _____