

**Recycling and Waste Disposal Committee**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**March 14, 2012**

**PRESENT:** Pat Bracken, Chairman, Ellen Cabral, Bob Nugent, Chris Kowalski, (absent Bob Golden)

Chairman Bracken opened the meeting.

Guests: Selectman Lindquist, Penny Williams (Tri Town News)

**OLD Business**

**MINUTES**

There was a motion to approve the minutes of Feb. 08, 2012 as amended.

**Ms. Cabral made a MOTION to accept the minutes of February 8, 2012**

**Mr. Nugent seconded the motion.**

**VOTE: 4-0-0**

**Motion Passes**

**New Business**

Curbside pickup- Mrs. Harrington mentioned to the committee that it looks like Bestway changed its collection of the recycling a little in February. She showed the committee that the statistics from Bestway have always been broken out by co-mingled and by paper. Half way through February, the statistics show a single stream total. The committee also discussed that residents should be encouraged to use barrels to prevent the papers from blowing away.

**Old Business**

Curbside Limit Changes- Selectman Lindquist told the committee that she did bring forward the recommendation of the committee to have the curbside limits adjusted. The Selectmen asked that any residents with a concern, to contact them or the office to let them be aware of the concerns. One letter was received by the Selectmen, which was also sent to the RAWD committee. Mr. Bracken noted that in that email, the resident was concerned with the way the recycling rate is calculated. The resident noted in the email that he sees more than ½ of his neighborhood recycling. Mr. Bracken explained to him in a return email that the recycling rate is determined by the total tonnage collected for the month divided by what was actually recycled. The resident also had a few questions such as what happens when a week is missed due to a vacation or when they have a party and one week is heavier than normal. The committee felt that the driver would have a good idea as to whether or not someone was abusing the limits or missed a week which would provide for some flexibility. The resident also suggested that a presentation be given on the cable channel showing how and what could be recycled. The committee agreed that this would be a good idea. Mrs. Harrington will check with cable to see if they still have the taping from Don Maurer's presentation.

Everyone agrees that in reducing trash by recycling you reduce costs. The committee will still bring forward the recommendation to cut the current limits in ½ to 2 barrels or 4 bags and see what the Selectmen would like to do. Most of the members noted that they don't see more than two barrels in their neighborhoods. Selectman Lindquist suggested that it go from 3 barrels/6 bags for the first 6 months and then to 2 barrels/4 bags. Mr. Kowalski thought just one communication from the committee would be better. Mr. Nugent stated that it could be stated that there could be possible reductions down the road when the 3 barrels/6 bags is announced. Mrs. Williams suggested that clarifying the size of the bags and then cut in ½ down the road may work.

Mr. Bracken will attend the Selectmen's meeting on March 26<sup>th</sup> and ask for the reduction in ½ and explain the reasons why. Someone asked if there were statistics available for what the

savings would be cutting the pickup in half. Mr. Kowalski will check into it. Mr. Bracken noted that they may need to look at a anti-litter law and how to enforce one

RecycleBank- There is no update and target date is still July 1<sup>st</sup>.

Mr. Nugent mentioned that on NH Public Radio there was a guest speaker on the Diane Reams show, Business of Recycling and Garbage. They wrote a book called "Recycling Reconsidered" and it explains how the US compares to countries around the world and how far behind we are. He also noted that it stated that taking glass curbside is a waste of time and effort. He noted that if there was a bottle bill in New Hampshire that would help. There are 10 states with a bottle bill in place. His goal is to see if he can read and get updated on options and be better prepared to help sway people to recycle.

Resident Flyers- Ms. Cabral mentioned that it was time to update the brochure that is mailed to the residents.

Compost- Mr.Kowalski asked about composting programs. He noted how much could be saved if things were composted. Mrs. Harrington noted that the compost bins have been ordered.

The meeting adjourned at 8:58 pm

**NEXT MEETING**

**April 11, 2012 at 7:30 p.m**

Respectfully Submitted,

Tina Harrington,  
Recording Secretary