

Lee Solid Waste Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Nov 26, 2018 6:30pm

Lee Public Safety Complex

Members present: Amy Schmidt (chair), Arthur Bradbury, Dean Rubine, Randy Stevens, Matt Smith

Officials present: Toby Van Aken (Transfer Station Manager), Cary Brown (Select Board), Shirley McKeon (Swap Shop Volunteer Coordinator)

Public present: none

I Call to order

6:35 pm

II Approval of minutes of 10/22/2018 meeting

Minutes approved unamended 5-0, Toby concurs

III Guest Shirley McKeon--Swap Shop Coordinator on Swap Shop Issues

AS: Welcome Shirley, please tell us what you think the big issues with the swap shop are, and how we might go about fixing them.

SM: Because of the delays in the new building, we opened before construction was totally done and we were short volunteers. Some volunteers questioned the rules. We lost some volunteers.

CB: Why?

SM: They didn't want to abide by the new rules or their feelings were hurt.

Right now we have volunteers who don't always call when they can't make their shifts. We don't have enough volunteers to cover the popular times. Saturday is the least favorite time to volunteer.

Consider only opening one day per week. Ideally we would have two volunteers per shift. Play with schedule.

Changes: No more furniture.

The original plans for the new shop are rumored to have had a porch, but that didn't make it to construction.

AS: If we cut hours we should announce the new hours in the E Crier, call for more volunteers

SM: I posted on NeighborLEE

AS: Are volunteers turning people's stuff away and enforcing bulky fees?

SM: They're getting better. It's usually easier just to accept the stuff and toss it after they leave.

DR: Where does the town stand on the closing for winter due to parking and slippery slopes?

CB: Plans is for Randy and new highway manager to construct 12 parking spots. Grading not really feasible at this time. Currently plan is to stay open.

DR: We're hearing complains of hoarders and loitering

CB: There are reports of verbal abuse

SM: I was away in October.

TVA: Volunteers arguing with each other

Public complaints about paying fees for swap shop deposits.

Security cameras are being installed.

DR: Let's add signs with the rules, require coupons

SM: Some volunteers don't enforce

Discussion of limited the parking to 15 minutes only. Parking tickets?

In Nottingham they didn't have enough volunteers and shut down their swap shop.

Candia 1 day / week

The committee thanks Shirley for all her work organizing the swap shop volunteers and for coming in tonight to discuss the issues. The committee encourages Shirley to bring any future issues to the committee's attention.

IV. Summary of NRRA marketing meeting Randy, Toby, Cary

Randy, Toby and Cary attended the November NRRA meeting. The NRRA has a plan to turn mixed paper into animal bedding, which may improve the costs of disposal. Toby will investigate. Look into shredder. Hopeful news is there's a new market for baled sorted office paper; plan to start collection, get paid on some stuff we currently pay to discard.

Factoid: NH imports trash from Mass.

No more cat food can collection; back in the regular metal for those.

V. Public Outreach/education for residents

SM: Signs with a list of disallowed items

E crier article to educate folks: swap shop rules

Change handout, incorporate prohibited items, improve brochure

Original plans had insulation, heat

Winter close up in the air

Motion: Dean moves, Matt 2nd:

Dean will draft E-crier article with new rules, mentioning:
New bulky fee schedule
Dropping off at swap shop still requires bulky fee
new collection of office paper, glossy magazines
15 minute parking and loitering limits

Approved 5-0 Toby concurs

Agenda for next meeting: finalized signage, Swap shop dos and don'ts handout

I. History at Transfer Station—Randy

Postponed.

VII. Pay per bag in Lee?

Postponed.

VIII. New Business

Talked about Composting, Mr. Fox, \$135/ton. Matt Smith: On committee with NHDES, public comment on new rules upcoming next few months, rules to be in force fall 2019.

Unfortunately for us, Matt's moving west. The Solid Waste Committee votes unanimously to thank Matt Smith for his service and wish him well in his new ventures.

IX. Next Meeting date and topics for Agenda

Dec 17, 6:30-8 Safety Complex

Topics as noted above

X. Public Comments

None

XI. Adjournment

8:04pm vote 5-0

Respectfully submitted, Dean Rubine