

**Lee Solid Waste Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**Dec 17, 2018 6:30pm**  
**Lee Public Safety Complex**

**Members present:** Amy Schmidt (chair), Dean Rubine, Randy Stevens

**Members absent:** Arthur Bradbury

**Officials present:** none

**Public present:** none

**I Call to order**

6:38 pm

**II Approval of minutes of 11/26/2018 meeting**

Approval tabled until next meeting because Randy never received the email. The secretary notes Randy's email address at the town of Lee no longer goes to him.

**III More on NRRA marketing meeting (Office Paper)—Randy, Toby**

RS: There's a market for SOP: Sorted office paper. It's white paper or colored paper with no unbleached wood content. We think it currently accounts for a very small percentage of our mixed paper, so we are not sure if it is worth collecting (revenue \$150+/ton versus a cost for mixed paper).

DR: We have lots of college professors tossing lots of office paper. Let's try to get a more accurate estimate.

RS: SWC members, sign up for the NRRA newsletter email at [nrra.net](http://nrra.net) and keep current on transfer station issues. There are webinars, e.g. for transfer station operator training. Randy will view and report.

**IV Allowed and disallowed items for swap shop**

Waiting on the list of prohibited items from Toby/Shirley. Working electronics only. Swap shop needs a big disclaimer sign – use items at your own risk.

**V Swap shop research**

Recommended viewing: Selectman Bugbee's comments on the transfer station and swap shop at the Dec 11 budget committee meeting available via YouTube.

We need more regular hours. Depends on availability of volunteers. Let's ask Shirley again if she can give us a more consistent schedule. Already closed Tuesday am.

**VI Public outreach/education for residents (including Dean's notice)**

Let's ask Denise to publish the Bulky Fee schedule in the E Crier separate from our notice.

RS: FAQ for Transfer Station. Committee thinks that's a great idea; send Randy questions (and answers if you like) you'd like to see in the FAQ. Eventually post online on our web page and put a link in ECrier. On agenda for next meeting.

Dean's notice (E-Crier): try to submit this Thursday. Committee makes major edits; Dean will send new draft.

Remind folks that magazines in the newspaper bin now are a good thing. Dean: in E-Crier article. AS: The sign above the bin says no magazines.

Next meeting: new signs, at the swap shop and the transfer station proper.

## **VII History at Transfer Station—Randy**

Randy is going through old SWC records 1991-1994. He's scanned them. DR: let's put them online.

Randy is highlighting important bits. He's also working on historical charts of how much trash and recycling the transfer station has processed over time. He has gaps in the data he's trying to fill.

SWC encourages Randy's work and suggests he continue to contribute a historical highlight to each agenda, which we will include in the minutes.

## **VIII Pay per bag in Lee?**

Randy produced an awesome spreadsheet indicating all the municipalities in NH that had pay per bag MSW (trash) disposal. Nearby were Newmarket, Somersworth, Dover, Barrington, Exeter, Raymond. Of particular interest to the committee were the communities, including Barrington, that combined pay per bag with a no-curb-side pickup, drop off-only transfer station.

Municipalities adopting PPB reduced their MSW by a reported 40%. People are more motivated to compost and recycle when not doing so costs them money.

RS: Town of Lee considered PPB In 2000, and it was actually studied and recommended by the SWC. There was a warrant to allow the selectmen to create a program in 2001. The new transfer station was built but no PPB program instituted, probably because asking the taxpayers to pay for bags after paying for a transfer station was going to annoy them.

Randy agreed to further investigate if Barrington and other dropoff-only PPB programs had difficulty in enforcement and lower reductions. We asked if the town makes money on the bag sales. Not sure; will investigate. We will continue the discussion next meeting.

## **IX Composting**

RS (again): Mr. Fox proposed a contract where he picks up for \$14/per tote, each with 250-300 pounds of compost in approved bags. Toby is looking into cost of approved bags. Estimated disposal cost of \$112/ton inclusive, compared to \$80 for MSW. We'd have to buy four totes at \$80 a pop. Suggest a pilot program to gauge interest, cost.

DR: Mr. Fox already picks up at Mast Way as part of Oyster River's efforts. Matt told us the new regs for onsite composting will be issued in 2019. I want to save money by composting, not spend more. The costs lower if we can compost on site. The pilot program would be good for gauging interest. The BOS will be happier if the program saves the town money.

Discuss next time.

## **X New Business**

RS: Toby's shorthanded at the transfer station, needs to hire part time. DR: Let's include that in the E-Crier article.

AS: Let's ask Denise to include the SWC in the ECrier list of committees that need members. Committee agrees.

**XI Public Comments**

None

**XII Next Meeting date and topics for Agenda.**

Jan 14, 6:30-8 Safety Complex. It's concurrent with the public budget hearing, which the committee also wants to attend, at least during the discussions of the transfer station. We will try to find out when the transfer station will come up, and have someone at the hearing notify us when we should pop up.

Agenda: Topics as noted above

**XIII Adjournment**

8:15pm vote 3-0

Respectfully submitted, Dean Rubine