

# Minutes

## Recycling Committee (Committee of the Select Board)

Thursday, September 20, 2007 7:00PM

Mary Herbert Conference Room

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1 *These minutes were prepared as a reasonable summary of the essential content of this*  
2 *meeting, not as a transcription.*

3  
4 Members Present: Chair: Alan Bucklin, Laurel Pohl, Jeff Church, Peter Killheffer, Walter  
5 Nordstrom, Kathie Scheuerle, Wendy Crowley, Charlie Brindamour, Ed MacNeil

6  
7 Members Absent: Debra Horman-Kroner, Joanne Lamprey, Brian Chevalier, Hope Miller

8  
9 Others present: (none)

10  
11 The meeting was brought to order at 7:00 pm on Thursday, September 20, 2007.

12  
13 I) Attendance: Mr. Bucklin took attendance.

14  
15 II) Brief review of prior (8/16) meeting: Mr. Bucklin addressed changes to the minutes  
16 of the August 16<sup>th</sup> meeting as proposed by Ms. Pohl. He stated that he agreed with  
17 some of the minor grammatical changes, but that he disagreed with the proposed  
18 change in focus from “transfer station” to “mandatory recycling”. He stated that he  
19 felt that the committee had agreed to direct him to address the selectmen about a  
20 transfer station. Ms. Pohl stated that adoption of the minutes could wait since  
21 several members who had attended the prior meeting were not present at the current  
22 meeting; and that for now, the minutes, and proposed changes, would stand and the  
23 minutes of the current meeting would reflect Mr. Bucklin’s objections to the  
24 proposed changes.

25  
26 III) Discussion of information gathered:

- 27 a. Six year history of Tonnage, Costs and Revenues for Recycling Center and  
28 comparison with Rye’s Recycling operations: Ms. Pohl explained that she had  
29 not received revenue figures from either the town office or from the solid waste  
30 committee, but would be presenting the information as soon as she was able to  
31 obtain the figures.
- 32  
33 b. North Hampton school recycling participation: Ms. Crowley gave a brief review  
34 of recycling efforts at the school and indicated that more volunteers, who have  
35 vehicles capable of hauling recyclables to the recycling center, were needed.  
36 Ms. Pohl asked Ms. Crowley to add her name to the list of volunteers.

37  

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1 c. Community newsletter and selectmen support for a non-money warrant article:  
2

3 Mr. Bucklin stated that he would be addressing the Select Board at their  
4 next meeting because, after proposing the warrant article at the Select Board  
5 meeting on August 27<sup>th</sup>, the Board requested numbers that would support a  
6 proposal for a transfer station before they could consider a warrant article.  
7

8 Several members of the committee, who had not been in attendance at the  
9 prior meeting, asked why the committee was making any proposals to the Select  
10 Board, and expressed concerns that such a proposal was premature at this time.  
11 Ms. Pohl explained that the committee had agreed at the August meeting that in  
12 order to increase the volume of recyclables significantly, instituting a mandatory  
13 recycling program was probably necessary. However, the committee felt that it  
14 was critical to gauge the community's level of support for mandatory recycling  
15 before proceeding with any proposal, and had discussed a number of ways to  
16 survey the community. The deadline for the fall community newsletter had just  
17 passed and a "survey question" on the town warrant was proposed as a possible  
18 way to get as much public response to the concept of mandatory recycling as  
19 possible.  
20

21 Mr. Bucklin disagreed with Ms. Pohl's assessment of the August meeting  
22 and stated that he felt that the committee had agreed that the focus of the survey  
23 question was not mandatory recycling, but a transfer station as it was the best  
24 way to increase the volume of recyclables. Ms. Pohl explained that addressing  
25 only a single method of implementing mandatory recycling was not the only  
26 method that the committee needed to consider. Expanding recycling center  
27 operations to include a trash handling operations would increase both labor and  
28 facility costs while a PAYT program does not require the staff or facilities to  
29 process and store garbage. Mr. Bucklin disagreed, stated that when he spoke to  
30 the Select Board at their August meeting they indicated that the objective of the  
31 committee was to increase the volume of recyclable materials, and they were  
32 not concerned with cost. Ms. Pohl reminded Mr. Bucklin that when the Select  
33 Board had asked her to set up the committee back in June, reducing the net cost  
34 of operating the center was the primary concern. She added that net cost had  
35 been cited as a factor in the attempt to zero out the recycling center's budget on  
36 the March warrant and that, at the deliberative session, community members  
37 had discussed the cost of running the center at length.  
38

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1 d. Cost of equipment, set up and hauling of trash: Mr. Bucklin noted that  
2 implementing a transfer station meant that the town would need to purchase a  
3 trash compactor. Ms. Pohl noted that before new equipment added or before a  
4 transfer station could be set up, the present recycling center facilities would  
5 need to be expanded and the electrical service upgraded to 2-phase. She added  
6 that there were other, less costly, short term objectives the committee should  
7 explore which would increase the volume of recycling, such as producing a  
8 brochure, working with the school, exploring cooperative arrangements with  
9 neighboring towns, expanding the types of materials handled, etc, before  
10 recommending a long term solution, such as a transfer station, to the Select  
11 Board. Mr. MacNeil added that oil and battery recycling should be done and  
12 asked why the committee was committed to a transfer station when the  
13 committee had not yet determined where it was headed. The committee began  
14 discussing other methods of increasing recycling, such as getting businesses to  
15 recycle, offering a bulky goods day on a more frequent basis, and processing  
16 household hazardous materials. Mr. Killheffer asked if the committee was  
17 really addressing the next item on the agenda. Ms. Pohl asked if the committee  
18 was ready to move on to the next agenda item. There were no objections.  
19

20 IV) Short and long term committee goals and objectives: Ms. Pohl handed out several  
21 items to help stimulate the discussion, including: a publication titled “Guide to  
22 Waste Reduction in St. Paul”, a newspaper article regarding teaching NHS students  
23 about recycling, Rye’s recycling brochure, a PowerPoint presentation given to the  
24 North Hampton Business Association. The committee brainstormed short and long  
25 term goals and objectives that would help minimize the cost of recycling. Mr.  
26 MacNeil suggested that the topics discussed were more like methods, the goals  
27 should be stated in terms of a measurable metric, and that a mission statement or a  
28 succinct statement of “where we were going” as a committee should be developed.  
29 The committee discussed mission, methods and objectives as follows:  
30

31 Short Term Objectives/Methods (aimed at increasing volume and maximizing revenue):

- 32 1. Collect School Recyclables
- 33 2. Capture Business Recyclables, focusing especially on cardboard and paper
  - 34 a. Work with the No. Hampton Business Association
  - 35 b. Study business costs of recycling (Peter Killheffer)
- 36 3. Study capacity of existing facility
- 37 4. Community Education:
  - 38 a. Brochure

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- 1 b. School (tours, classes, etc)
- 2 c. Community newsletter (communicate costs of not recycling)
- 3 d. Marquee/channel 22
- 4 e. Northeast Regional Recycling Association
- 5

6 Long Term Objectives/Methods aimed at maximizing volume (with potential associated  
7 increases in both costs and revenues):

- 8 1. More frequent Bulky Goods Days
- 9 2. Transfer Station
- 10 3. PAYT program
- 11 4. Take “everything” that is recyclable
- 12 5. Swap Shop
- 13 6. Address future landfill costs
- 14 7. Use internships/volunteers/”City Year” programs
- 15

### Mission:

- 17 • Efficiency
- 18 • Socially Redeeming Issue
- 19 • Reduce Waste Stream
- 20 • Educate Public
- 21 • Facilitate (not process) household hazardous materials
- 22 • More convenience (make recycling easy to do, hours of operation, pleasant  
23 atmosphere)
- 24 • Business and School participation
- 25 • Expand “product/service lines” (e.g. oil process electronics, batteries, cell phones)
- 26

27 Ms. Pohl agreed to draft a mission statement that would capture the essence of the  
28 elements outlined above for the committee’s approval.

29  
30 Several members asked if the committee was done and Mr. Bucklin noted that it was  
31 getting late. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:45 pm.

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