

## Recycling Committee Meeting Notes

November 9, 2010

The meeting started at 6:50 PM, after relocating to one of the offices downstairs.

Those present: Committee members Andrew Stockwell, Justin Leavitt, Israel Willard, Don Guarino, Lori Baldwin, Johnna McKenna, Frank Bosiak, Lew Henry and Barbara Swanson. Also present were speakers Sarah Nichols and Bob Moreny (RCAP), James Presher (Concord Co-op) and Don Maurer (DES). There was also a guest, Marge (Tilton Recycling Committee) who saw the article and meeting notice in the paper.

1. Sarah Nichols was introduced by Bob Moreny as a recent graduate from UNH and a specialist for RCAP. She gave a power point presentation on RCAP and the help it offers to small communities to help manage their solid waste stream. RCAP has resources available through the USDA, NH Environmental Services, NRRRA and the EPA.

Topics covered included:

**Why Recycle** (recovery of valuable materials such as paper, metals, plastics, glass, organics; conservation ; environmental stewardship to reduce emissions, dispose of hazardous waste properly, maintain landfill space and a sense of community)

**Programs available** including people (such as Sarah) to speak to and help communities establish and maintain a solid waste program. A full cost analysis can also be provided by RCAP to provide a basis for budgeting decisions, increase efficiency and to establish a status quo. Sarah said she could work up an analysis (hopefully within a month), but would need facts and figures from the town. Andrew Stockwell and Tim Warren were suggested as contacts.

**Moving Forward** (how to start and maintain a recycling program in the community)

**Recipe for Recycling** including **Education** (awareness to change the throw away ethic, community involvement, recycling at school); **Mandatory Recycling** (this is difficult to enforce as an infrastructure is needed for penalties and fairness); **Organic Recycling** (yard trimmings and many food scraps can be taken out of the current solid waste stream, reduces methane gas at the recycling facility, composting helps reduce the need for fertilizer...but need infrastructure to handle at a recycling facility.); **Single Stream Recycling** (easier form of recycling for residents to do which increases the amount of recycling and reduces the amount of solid waste, but it is less valuable than recycled items that have been separated); **Pay as You Throw (PAYT)** (this program offers economic incentives for recycling, provides equity among the residents, recovers costs and has proven results, but education is key to establishing it - residents may think that they are paying for what was free (which was not free, but paid from taxes) or they may think they are paying twice for something (which they wouldn't as town taxes would not include cost for the Recycling Facility.).

Questions that came up were:

Can Single Stream and PAYT programs work together? Yes.

Can RCAP help Gilmanton with a Full Cost Analysis? Yes (see above notation)

Regarding the amount of paper recycled noted in the presentation, is it the same now? No...the numbers for recycled paper are down. This could be due to the economy and the amount of paper being produced which is also down due to demand.

There are 46 towns doing PAYT, but have the proposals ever been turned down at the town meeting? Yes, but DES can help to make the process toward a positive end. It will probably take a year to happen. It was noted that Concord did a lot of education (speaking at community committees, public TV, articles in the paper, etc.) and it worked.

2. Jim Presher gave a power point presentation with handouts regarding the Concord Co-op and their move toward Single Stream Recycling. He said that education is key and to give out information as many times as possible, as clearly as possible for Single Stream Recycling to be accepted and effective.

He said it works well with PAYT programs.

The Co-op was formed in 1985 and Gilmanton is one of the original members. The Co-op is a not for profit group that works for the towns to provide a cost effective way to dispose of solid waste. They have been investigating Single Stream Recycling and the construction of a facility due to increased tipping fees as well as a reduction in siting new landfills. The new facility is planned as part of a 43 acre area off Route 93 at exit 17. It is central to NH and near rail lines.

Single Stream Recycling allows all recyclable materials to go into a single container. There is no need for special equipment. It is more efficient and easier for both home owners and businesses to do. The result is more recycling and less solid waste, so there is a savings in disposal costs as well as operating and collection costs. "It is always positive to take out of trash and put into recycling."

The Co-op is looking for additional recyclable material commitment from towns. To be feasible, it needs 25,000 tons and currently has 15,000. Gilmanton can decide to participate at any time.

Mr. Presher showed slides of the proposed building and a brief video showing how Single Stream Recycling is done.

The potential benefits of working with the Co-op and Single Stream Recycling are reduced solid waste costs, increased recycling, payment/cost for recycled materials is actual, reduced cost at the town facility (less labor needed), voting rights on the board (1/500 residents), working with a public entity (not for profit) and no capital investment required. As a member of the Co-op, Gilmanton is guaranteed the best pricing. They will include an educational program.

The Co-op has started the process of creating a facility. To date they have purchased the land, appropriated \$3 million to date, building and site designs are complete, building permit application process is started. They have a DES permit, have gone through phases I and II of Archaeological studies, equipment has been selected, Casella has been chosen as the facility operator (the only US company to bid and the lowest bid) and bids for road and site work are under review.

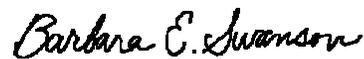
They hope to have the facility started by April 2011 and ready for use in April 2012.

They would like the committee to discuss this with the town board of selectmen and to submit a "letter of commitment" to the Co-op.

3. The minutes for the Oct. 19, 2010 meeting were approved.

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, December 14th at 6:30PM in the Academy Building (top floor).

Respectfully submitted,



Recording clerk