

Solid Waste Advisory Committee - Town of Granby - Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: October 15, 2014

Minutes taken by Joe Furnia, Committee Chair

Eighth meeting of the Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) was held on October 15, 2014. Meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM. Three members of the committee were in attendance, plus Arlene Miller. Not in attendance were Elaine LeFleur, Marty Conway, and Mary McDowell. Will Lewis has resigned from the committee

Minutes of the committee's seventh meeting were unanimously approved.

Next meeting is scheduled for November 18, 2014 at 7PM. Early December meeting to be set for week of December 8th, after which committee will not meet again until January 2015.

This meeting focused on yard waste collection program and other collection/recycling opportunities for the Town of Granby.

Brush/Grass/Leaf Collection

1. Statistics from the first yard waste collection date.

- a. 29 vehicles brought brush. Approximately 100 cubic yards of brush were chipped into 30 cubic yards.
- b. 32 vehicles disposed of grass/leaves, which filled 1 20 yard container.

2. Issue with disposal of leaves/brush by Barnish at the Wagner Wood Amherst facility. Household waste was found in brown paper bags in which grass/leaves were collected. Facility has put us on notice. If Household waste is found in future containers, the facility will no longer accept our grass/leaves. Remedy is to publish the following phrase and enforce it: " ILLEGAL DUMPING WILL RESULT IN A LOSS OF PRIVILEGES". It was suggested that we randomly open brown bags at point of disposal as opening all bags would significantly increase the amount of time town residents must wait in line to dispose of their grass/leaves.

3. Cost of the fall collection program will be monitored and assessed. Feeling is that current program is more expensive than it needs to be.

- a. Current vendor not only charges for trucking of grass/leaves to Amherst, but also for mileage and hauling of empty containers from Highway Department back to vendor facility. Impression is that quotes from vendors are should be a single rate that covers entire cost.
- b. Wagner Wood charges \$4.25 per cubic yard, so it is beneficial to either physically compact the yard waste, or let it compost to reduce the size.
- c. Highway Department costs are 4 employees at time and a half wages for four hours.
- d. Next fiscal year (begins July 1, 2015), Highway Department plans to purchase small truck that can haul 20 yard containers.

4. Arlene Miller mentioned that Longmeadow used to have a program where the town "sucked up" leaves/grass left by the road side using Blower/Mulcher equipment. Program was very expensive but popular with many residents. About 1/3 of Longmeadow residents participated in this program, 1/3 of town residents hired landscapers who take care of disposal, and 1/3 of Longmeadow town residents

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bring their yard waste to town facility for disposal. Granby has 57 miles of highway, so a curbside pickup program would be untenable.

5. Committee agreed to schedule and advertise 4 additional days in November and December subject to Dave Derosiers approval.

a. November Dates - 8/15/22

b. December Date - 6

Selectboard approved up to 8 dates. Depending upon weather and perceived need, Committee may approve 1-2 additional days at our early December meeting.

6. The following communication plan is to be implemented subject to approval (by Chris Martin).

a. One page flyer will be modified to include the November 8/15/22 and December 6 dates. The following phrase will be added: ILLEGAL DUMPING WILL RESULT IN LOSS OF PRIVILEGES.

b. Flyer will continue to be published on town website.

http://www.granby-ma.gov/Pages/GranbyMA_Landfill/index

c. Flyer will be provided to Senior Center and included in November newsletter.

d. Code Red campaign will be scheduled for each Wednesday/Thursday prior to each collection date.

e. Advertise collection dates in November Granby telephone bill (if free or inexpensive).

7. Veterans Day/ CleanUp Day leaves need to be collected and disposed of.

8. Committee agreed the one additional yard waste collection day left under the current contract with Republic will be scheduled in the Spring.

9. Committee agreed the BWP SW 46 permit for recycling, composting or operation conversion should not be pursued at this time, given the temporary nature of our initial collection program. It requires the certification of an engineer and detailed site plan and operational design, along with a description of all recyclables and organic material to be collected. The issue is compliance, which requires we dispose of our collected yard waste in 7 days or become subject to the permit requirement. Arlene did mention there is an intermediate permit based upon the composting of grass/leaves left on the ground until removed to a disposal facility. Biggest concerns are noxious odors and the flow of traffic to drop organic material onto the ground.

Granby PTO Recycling Day - October 18

John brought up PTO Recycling Day, which is to be held this coming Saturday October 18th at the East Meadow school parking lot. The weblink states that the MacDuffie School will be collecting electronics and appliances for a fee.

<http://www.granbypto.com/granby-recycling-day.html>

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In addition; textiles (Granby PTO), sports equipment (GAA), bottles and cans (Granby Cub Scouts), and band instruments (Granby Music Parents Association) will be collected.

Hazardous Waste

Arlene mentioned hazardous waste days run by other towns. Republic provides \$3,500 annually toward hazardous waste disposal. Hazardous waste events are generally done with neighboring communities due to cost.

To Do

1. Joe to contact Dave Derosiers to make sure the November 8/15/22 and December 6 dates are acceptable. Once he approves, changes to flyer will be made. **Done. Dave approved the 4 dates on 10/16/2014. Dave will confirm these dates with Chris Martin.**
 2. Joe to contact Cathy Leonard to make committee approved changes to flyer and have copy of flyer provided to Senior Center for inclusion in November newsletter. **Done. Cathy to make fly changes and submit for final approval. 850 copies will need to be printed for inclusion in the November Council on Aging Newsletter. Jessica Scahill (coadirector@granby-ma.gov) must receive printed flyers by Thursday, October 23. Cathy said she must speak to Chris about approving printing of flyers.**
 3. Joe to contact Cathy Leonard/Chris Martin about use and scheduling of Code Red Alert RoboCalls prior to each collection date to notify and remind residents of the collection dates and times. **Done. Spoke with Granby Police Department, gatekeeper of the system. There is no additional charge as the capability is part of the 911 system licensed by the town/police department. Dave Derosiers and Chief Al Wishart are in contact about scheduling. Requested Wednesday call. Dave will speak with Chris Martin to get approval to do the calls. Chris will decide whether we call once or every Wednesday before each Saturday collection date.**
 4. Joe to West Street School to identify appropriate PTO member to discuss their upcoming Recycling day and how they are advertising the program. Are they doing RoboCalls? If not, see if a Code Red Alert RoboCall can be scheduled immediately. **Done. Spoke with Andrea Kennedy, head of the PTO (abk52868@gmail.com). They have advertised the event through flyer distribution through all three schools, word of mouth, and press release. The event will be filmed by Granby Cam. McDuffie collection of Appliances/Electronics is done through a third party, with McDuffie being paid by the vendor they have contracted with. McDuffie School not committed long term. Decision driven by how much they make. First event yielded a \$1,000 for McDuffie.**
 5. Joe to contact OTT Communications to see if we can advertise our collection dates in the November billing statement and determine if there is a cost. **Done. Contact is Mary Post at OTT Communications... advertise@ottcommunications.com. November billing statement will not arrive in Granby Households until the date of the first November collection day, November 8.**
 6. Joe to ask Cathy Leonard about Wifi capabilities in Carnegie building, and obtain connection/password information.
- The meeting was adjourned at 8:36 PM.