

Solid Waste Advisory Committee - Town of Granby - Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: September 10, 2014

Minutes taken by Joe Furnia, Committee Chair

Sixth meeting of the Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) was held on September 10, 2014. Meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM. Four members of the committee were in attendance, plus Arlene Miller. Not in attendance were Elaine LeFleur, Marty Conway, and Will Lewis.

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

Next meeting is scheduled for September 30, 2014 at 7PM.

This meeting focused on four topics:

1. Establishment of a Brush/Grass/Leaf collection site.
2. Inspection of potential Transfer Station sites with Dan Hall of the Commonwealth DPW.
3. Disposal of electronics.
4. Hazardous Waste Disposal.

Meeting focused on brush/grass/leaf collection.

The focus of the committee is to address town needs incrementally.

Brush/Grass/Leaf Collection Site

Discussion focused on decision to propose use of Granby Highway Department location for a brush/grass/leaf collection site. Committee initially focused on August 30, 2014, collection event at the Highway Department. Questions included volume collected and amount of traffic, for which no information was available.

Committee had looked into collection site options, including the use of the town gravel pit and foreclosed properties. No suitable site was identified.

With fall almost here, Committee agreed that we need to move forward immediately with a collection site.

Committee then unanimously approved the following motion: SWAC proposes that the Granby DPW location be used for Brush/Grass/Leaf collection site through December 31, 2014, conditional upon approval by Selectboard.

Committee will leave operational aspects up to Dave Derosiers, and concern was expressed about the need to monitor the process (do we or don't we have a monitor during drop-off hours). How many days and hours will the collection site be open? Initially there will be no fee, however the application of a sticker requirement was suggested to ensure only town residents have access. It was also recommended that the collection site be restricted to residential brush/grass/leaves.

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Since we will not compost on site, it was suggested we reach out to Red Fire Farm. Brush will be chipped.

Determining how the operation will be structured will be a work in progress. It is expected that the collection site will close sometime in December and re-open in the Spring. The committee will assess and tweak the process.

Notification of operational hours is a concern. Recommendations include multiple Code Red Telephone communications to all residents beginning one week before the opening of the collection site. We also need to ensure that operational hours and requirements will be posted on the town website.

Inspection of Potential Transfer Station Sites with Dan Hall

Jay, Marty, Arlene, and Joe joined Dan Hall of Commonwealth DPW for inspection of potential sites for a future Transfer station. Jay wrote up three trip reports, one for each site visited, which are attachments to the minutes:

1. 229R East Street Granby MA Site Visit - #2
2. Tilley Street, Ludlow, MA Area
3. Granby Highway Department on Crescent St Trip Report

Since the focus of the meeting was on the selection of a Brush/Grass/Leaf collection site, the committee did not spend much time discussing the site visits. A detailed discussion was postponed until a later date.

Committee did focus on Dan's assessment of the Granby Highway Department location for Brush/Grass/Leaf disposal. From Dan's perspective, no issues with use of this site for collection of Brush/Grass/Leaves. No setback requirements.

Disposal of Electronics

Committee discussed disposal of electronics. It was suggested that we put a dumpster at the Granby Highway Department and let residents drop-off their electronics, and then we haul it away. A discussion regarding whether to charge a fee or no fee ensued. Arlene said that all towns charge a fee. Reasoning behind a no fee structure focused on avoiding roadside dumping to avoid paying a fee.

All agreed that the cost of scheduled pickup by Allied is expensive. Arlene suggested we look into private contractors that will run electronics disposal events, and said that all charge at least a nominal fee. Arlene will provide a schedule of fees charged by neighboring communities.

Hazardous Waste

Committee also briefly discussed hazardous waste events. Mary said that Allied provides \$3,500 annually toward hazardous waste disposal. Hazardous waste events are generally done with

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neighboring communities due to cost. Arlene said that when it comes to paint, if residents use kitty litter to absorb the paint, then paint can be disposed of in regular trash pickup.

To Do

1. Joe to contact Cathy Leonard to get SWAC on September 15, 2014 Selectboard meeting schedule.
2. Joe to contact Ryan Violand of Red Fire Farm regarding disposal of grass/leaf collection in their compost pile.
3. Joe to contact Dave Derosiers regarding his attendance at September 15, 2014 Selectboard meeting.
4. Joe to contact Dan Hall of Commonwealth DPW regarding necessary form(s) for use of Granby Highway department location for brush/grass/leaf collection.
5. Arlene to provide price list for disposal of electronics in other local municipalities.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:18 PM.