

Solid Waste Advisory Committee
Minutes of Meeting
Video Conference
January 19, 2021

Present: Julie Sherman, Susan Spak, Ted Busky, Pene Williams, Roxana Mocanu, Shelby Fuerst, Rita Kornblum, Virginia Walton (staff)

The meeting was called to order at 5:33 pm by Chairperson Sherman.

The December 15, 2020 meeting minutes were approved on a motion by Kornblum/Mocanu.

Walton shared a flyer for a June 12 compost bin/rain barrel pre-order sale, offered through Enviroworld. Members expressed interest in a broader focus on composting this year that is more than a sale of bins. Kornblum, Spak and Williams volunteered to meet as a working group to develop a strategy to promote and encourage residents to compost. Walton will set up a meeting.

Residents continue to subscribe to higher trash service sizes, which has been a trend over the past two years. Currently, the 160 gallon service is not paying for itself. Busky and Mocanu offered to look at the breakdown of the single-family rates, for ease of full committee understanding, prior to presenting this information at the next meeting.

The Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) has finalized an outline of strategies to reduce waste based on meetings with municipalities and other organizations. Getting food out of the waste stream, passing EPR legislation and expanding pay as you throw programs are the priorities. Gas cylinder EPR legislation will be introduced this session.

The Committee decided to focus on Adopt A Road rather than Rid Litter Day this spring. Sherman offered to help with calling volunteers on the Adopt A Road list to see if they are still interested or available to continue. Publicity could focus on those roads in of need volunteers. Would the schools be engaged in participating? Busky offered to be in the spotlight as a volunteer.

Walton reported that the Town Manager may be available to attend the February meeting. She will draft a presentation for members to review. To be included: school reuse and composting, swap shop opening, Adopt A Road, zero waste, plastic bag ordinance, school deconstruction, environmental purchasing policy.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Virginia Walton