

TOWN OF GOSHEN
CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR RECYCLING AND TRASH - RATS
01/12/2022 - REGULAR MEETING - 6:30 PM - WEDNESDAY
This meeting was held in person at the Town Hall Conference Room and via Zoom Conference call.
Conference Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89492638342>

MEETING ID: 894 9263 8342 Option 2: Dial-in number: 1-929-205-6099

CALL TO ORDER: Paul Collins, Recycling Coordinator, called the meeting to order at 6:36 PM.

ATTENDANCE:

In person: Paul Collins-Recycling Coordinator and Lucy Hussman

Via Zoom: Cindy Barrett, Patrick Reilly and Todd Carusillo-First Selectman

Excused: Garret Harlow and Rod Zander

Guests: Annette Lott and Kosta Voiklis

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING: Tabled till February 9, 2022 meeting.

RECYCLING COORDINATOR UPDATE: Paul Collins reported the following:

1. Very few phone calls were received over the last two months and Paul reported that he received no phone calls about what to do with Christmas trees. Discussion was had about the Drakeville Fire Department having a Christmas tree bonfire, possible chipping option of Christmas trees as a means of disposal, concerns from DEEP with past burning, and does the Goshen Public Works Department have a chipper.

OLD BUSINESS: The following was presented and discussed by the committee:

COMPOST BINS: Paul reported that the final cost of the compost bins was \$66.12 and no refunding was necessary. A total of 21 bins were distributed.

WEBSITE/TOWN TOPICS-UPDATE-IDEAS FOR NEW FLYERS: Paul asked for committee input for ideas to refresh the Recycling page on the Goshen Town website and future Goshen Town Topics publications. The following were discussed:

1. **MATTRESS RECYCLING:** Cindy Barrett reported posts on Next-door by residents inquiring about mattress recycling. Contact was made with the Cornwall Transfer Station and as a neighboring town of Cornwall, Goshen residents can contact the Cornwall Transfer Station at 860-672-4079 and let them know that they have a mattress to drop off as Cornwall keeps a record. Traditional box spring mattresses are accepted, there is no charge, crib mattresses and memory foam mattresses are not accepted. Posts were made to Next-door as well about the April 9 and October 1 Recycling events that will be at Goshen Town Hall and include electronics, paper shredding and Mattress/box springs.
2. Paul suggested a possible rotation of recycling topics on the website to include more information. Paul noted that Albreda Refuse and Sweeping LLC has recently merged with USA Hauling and Recycling. Discussion was had regarding the quarterly fees charged by the haulers to pick up residents trash and transport it to Torrington. Paul noted that the town pays the fee for transport beyond that to Hartford.
3. Discussion was had regarding what goes in the recycling bin and educating residents that plastic films do not belong in the bin as well as styrofoam.
4. **NexTrex - Community Program:** Paul shared the screen with the attachment that was posted with the Agenda on the **Plastic Film Recycling Challenge-Info Sheet** from NexTrex. Discussion was had and Paul explained the community challenge of collecting a minimum of 500 lbs of plastic film and bags over a 6 month period. Pat Reilly expressed his liking this idea as well as other members and discussion was had by the committee as where to place the two bins, how to track the weights, inclusion of the plastic collection bins at the recycling events in April and October and how to advertise. Paul will contact NexTrex and suggested we kickoff the collection at the April recycling event and conclude it on October 1. Todd Carusillo-First Selectman- suggested posting on blackboard connect to the public and discussion was had of the many plastics to be recycled which were listed on the information sheet. Virginia Perry will be contacted for exact submission dates and publication dates of the Town Topics so that this program could be advertised.

5. REDUCTION OF SOLID WASTE: Todd Carusillo asked about how we can reduce the weight of our municipal solid waste. Paul explained that CT DEEP is suppose to be doing a presentation this week on getting the organics out of the solid waste stream and how they plan to move forward with it. He suggested that we follow their lead and composting is a part of this.

Todd reviewed that glass, cans, and papers go in our recycling bins and discussion was had of how we can make residents smarter to not place items like electronics or building materials such as sheet rock in bins. Members discussed possibilities of educating contractors of waste and removal via on-site dumpsters and how to do that.

IN A MOTION made by Patrick Reilly, seconded by Lucy Hussman, **it was VOTED** to contact the Building official to get his input about dumpsters and if it is a possibility, for discussion at our next meeting. Voted unanimous.

6. ELECTRONICS RECYCLING OPTIONS: It was reviewed that electronics can be recycled at Goshen's Recycling events in April or October and can also be brought directly to "take2" in Waterbury ...visit <https://www.take2recycle.com/>.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1. Minimum Post-Consumer Recycled Plastic Content Model Legislation for Plastic-Call for Comments:** Discussion was had on the attachment that was posted with the Agenda on the Goshen website of the "Draft Model Legislation" from nerc.org - Northeast Recycling Council - was discussed by members. Paul noted that he supports the idea and he suggested more involvement with the producers in dealing with post consumer waste.

Pat Reilly shared his concern of returning the plastics to the petro-chemical companies that manufactured them and why is this responsibility put on the citizens. He noted that this legislation is a step in the right direction and it is a long term process. Also noted was that perhaps the timelines could be more aggressive for III. Post-Consumer Recycled Plastic Connect Requirement.

Discussion was had regarding recovery of plastics from the oceans and what companies are involved in this.

The next meeting will be on February 9, 2022, Wednesday, at 6:30 PM.

ADJOURNMENT:

IN A MOTION made by Patrick Reilly, seconded by Lucy Hussman, **it was VOTED** to adjourn the meeting at 7:11 PM. Voted unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Barrett
Cynthia Barrett

Received January 18th 2022, 10:04AM

Attest Daniel H. Kane *JD* Asst
Goshen Town Clerk