Litchfield SMART Task Force Meeting Minutes  
Held on Zoom  
May 6, 2021

Chairman J Geci called the meeting to order at

Members Present: J Geci, K Zullo, C Liley, H Simko, L Loose

Attending: D Raap, First Selectwoman; N Boccio, Litchfield Public Works Liaison; M Andrulis, Litchfield High School Liaison; S Mullen, joining task force member

IDEAS FOR GRANT

The CT DEEP and RecycleCT Foundation are accepting applications for a grants which support waste reduction and recycling and composting efforts. The Task Force brainstormed possible grant ideas.

COMPOSTING IDEAS

N Boccio shared a composting bucket the grant could be used to purchase and then distributed to families bringing compost to the recycling center. Creating a target number of households to sign up to commit to composting and then giving families that sign up a countertop collection bucket. H Simko brought up the incentive to have families that compost food scraps be given finished compost.

C Liley discussed her efforts with the schools and how the grant could be used to help composting in the schools, including a marketing campaign. In her talks with the schools, concerns about animals made on-site composting undesirable. The committee discussed having buckets for the school to collect food scraps, possibly with a containment area, and having a stipend available for someone to bring the collected scraps to the Recycling Center.

WASTE REDUCTION IDEAS

J. Geci suggested the possibility of using the grant to work on a pay as you throw program, demonstrated to reduce the tonnage of trash produced.

Chez Liley confirmed that the schools have the reusables necessary to phase out single use disposables.

Permitting of demolition materials was discussed, but not pursued.

S Mullen brought up biochar as a potential project.

Groups to target the grant toward were discussed, including schools, restaurants, distilleries, bakeries, businesses. C Liley has been in communications with the schools, including Ed Advance, and reports that they would be more in favor of pick-up composting than on-site composting.
J Geci questioned if we could capture the Methane off the old landfill but it was explained that CTDEEP required several layers of capping and it would not be a cost-effective procedure if CT DEEP even allowed us to.

J Geci suggested we apply under category 2 and refine the grant ideas at the next regular meeting.

S Mullen will be joining the task force.

Meeting was adjourned by Chez making the motion with Lee second.

5:20 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Kate Zullo