Litchfield SMART Task Force Meeting Minutes
Held on Zoom
April 14, 2021

Chairman J Geci called the meeting to order at 4:06 pm.

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

Attending: D Raap, First Selectwoman; N Boccio, Litchfield Public Works Liaison

RECYCLING CENTER UPDATE

N Boccio has been working on guidelines with food scraps and permitting. The curbside compost bins are being picked up every two weeks, down from monthly at the start. The RC guidelines/ordinance will state that you have to be a resident of Litchfield and contractors will need a building permit to show they are working for residents to cut down on contractors working outside of town bringing in materials. There will be stickers that will not have a cost for residents. After an ordinance is finished, a brochure will be created and will be distributed. N Boccio distributed a spreadsheet on materials collected at the Recycling Center with the amount, revenue, and expense. The RC is making a small profit.

SCHOOL AND PROGRAMMING UPDATES

N Boccio was meeting with the school custodians and brought up composting. C Liley will be talking with Superintendent Chris Leone to discuss composting and reusables. C Liley also shared information from the Center of Eco Technology as a resource. The proposal would start with an audit.

Upcoming Programs:

April 22nd—N Boccio, D Raap, and J Geci will be at the school for Earth Day.

May 17th—H Simko, J Geci, K Zullo and N Boccio will be presenting at the LCC’s Lunch series

EARTH DAY

C Kinkade has 23 people signed up for the Earth Day Road clean up. The Rotary will have sandwiches and drinks at Community Field. People can pick up materials from Naomi before or at Community Field on the day of.

LOCAL MEDIA COVERAGE

With C Kinkade J Geci was on WZBG on April 12th in the morning. Chuck Conn from rotary passed out flyers.

TRASH AND RECYCLING IN TOWN

J Geci and D Raap met with Borough Burgess to show container options that seemed in favor. Having a bright blue container was not received favorably. Next step will be to putting in a joint application with Borough to the Historic District Commission. They discussed locations, including the post office, directly
next to the information booth, and near the sidewalk to the Center School parking lot. After approval, issues such as managing and payment for removal will be addressed.

MISSION AND PAY AS YOU THROW PROGRAMS

J Geci discussed speaking with the State worker as part of the sustainable program and one of the central pieces of the SMART committee is to promote a PAYT program. D Raap explained that half the tipping fee in commercial non-residential users and the committee discussed how to incentivize them to reduce trash. K Zullo suggested a program to help restaurants that do compost promote the fact that they compost, such as a door sticker. J Geci asked if trucks were capable of weighing totters. If so, it would be easy to charge residents by what they generate. J Geci will rework the mission statement and bring to the next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 5:10

Respectfully submitted,

Kate Zullo