

Litchfield SMART Task Force Meeting Minutes

Litchfield Public Works

September 8, 2021

Members Present: J. Geci, H. Simko, S. Mullen, C Liley

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

Absent: L Losee, K Zullo, D Wilson

Minutes

C Liley moved to accept as read, seconded by S Mullen. Motion passed unanimously.

Trash and Recycling in Center of Town

D Raap and J Geci attended a HDC meeting with D. Patterson. D. Patterson and the HDC approved four sets of a combination of Blue Recycling Bins and Dark Green Trash Bins for the Borough. One to go by the light pole at Ollie's Pizza, one to go by the Post Office, one to go by Express 59, and one to go by the Municipal Lot Restrooms. They also approved one dog waste station to go on the island in front of the Municipal Lot Restrooms.

S Mullen looked into the cost of the dog waste station and came up with a few ideas like having the school kids make a dispenser or follow a design he found on the web. He was told that the approval was for the standard units like the ones at LCF or Town Beach sites. S. Mullen will look into prices for some bag dispensers like those.

D. Rapp will look into the SustainableLitchfield project for possible funding and will talk to D Patterson for help with funding the bins or dog waste unit.

H. Simko suggested raising funds at the Town Wide Tag sale. However, D Raap suggested that the task force submit a small budget that lists line items.

Recycling Center Update

N Boccio said that the new flooring repairs have been made. Also, the Swap Shop is now completed, and R. Curtiss did a great job building new shelves to organize the area.

N Boccio said the permit for food waste has been submitted to DEEP for the third time.

Sustainable Litchfield Update

J Geci wrote and assembled the final draft for 9.3 & 9.4 Actions for the SustainableCT Silver Award and submitted it to SustainableLitchfield.

D Raap would like the SMART and SL to work closer together and focus on businesses, PAYT, and (C. Liley suggested) Schools.

School Updates

C Liley has been working with the BOE. The schools no longer use disposable trays, plates, or flatware. They now use reusable trays that are shaped to hold different foods apart.

She suggested the SMART and BOE, including Regional 6, have an informal round table discussion on where recycling should be heading in the schools and how we can help.

H Simko spoke about the webinar on school recycling and suggests we share that information with them.

C Liley also spoke about how food scraps should be recycled in the schools. D Raap suggested we do a week long study to show the school how much waste could be recycled.

C Liley will put together a proposal that we can bring to them and show us at the next meeting.

Recycling Website

N Boccio will contact E Callahan to get some dates so C Liley and she can meet to come up with a better recycling website.

PAYT

Open discussion on how this could save taxpayers money by reducing waste and recycling more. D Raap explained that the nonprofits and businesses currently pay nothing but are 51% of our cost in MSW tip fees.

J Geci suggests everyone (H. Simko, C. Zilley, and J Geci) look into how other towns doing PAYT have started out and how they are doing.

Letter to the BOS

This item was tabled.

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:35 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Naomi Boccio