

## Litchfield SMART Task Force Meeting Minutes

Held on Zoom

October 14, 2020

Chairman J Geci called the meeting to order at 4:05 pm.

Members Present: J Geci, H Simko, D Raap, C Liley, K Zullo

Litchfield Public Works Liaison: N Boccio

High School Liaison: M Andrulis

Minutes from September 30, 2020 meeting were accepted unanimously.

### **RECYCLING SHED UPDATE**

N Boccio is meeting with contractors to replace and improve gates and fences. The swap shop will remain closed until the state allows unrestricted openings.

### **MEMBER REPORTS**

Schools: Chez spoke with Len Fasano and discussed disposables used at the Litchfield Public Schools. C Liley has been researching schools with reusable options, looking at both health and cost impacts and has joined the Zero Waste School Coalition as an unaffiliated member. The coalition has resources from other schools that have reduced waste. Len did not have exact numbers on the amount of waste produced. N Boccio may have records to see how much the school was producing a few years ago. J Geci wants to know what type of trash the school is generating. K Zullo will be talking with Maggie Dreher from Food Services to ask about purchasing.

Restaurants: H Simko has developed a survey sheet called "Food Waste in Your Restaurant" survey. H Simko will be visiting restaurants to administer the survey. The survey addresses Pre-Consumer, Post-Consumer, Disposables, and Alternate Waste Disposal options. The group discussed language and suggestions for implementing. H Simko shared a logo for the Litchfield SMART Task Force.

Grocery Stores: J Geci visited Stop and Shop manager about soft plastic recycling. Customers can drop off used plastic bags in a container by the front door. The contents are shipped out to a location in Massachusetts. According to J Geci Bantam Market recycles cardboard but since it does not give out plastic bags, there is no used plastic bag collection container. Leftover food is donated to food rescue organizations.

N Boccio shared USA Hauling statistics:

FY19 - 2543 tons commercial (54%), and 2160 tons residential (46%) – Total 4703 tons

FY20 - 2302 commercial (51%) and 2219 tons residential (49%) – Total 4521 tons

## **SUSTAINABLE LITCHFIELD PROPOSED ACTIONS**

J Geci brought up the need for baselines for all aspects of community – commercial, government, and residential. D Raap wants to come up with goals for the group. The group discussed a Pay as you Throw model and the challenges. N Boccio spoke with USA and will set up a meeting with USA hauling contact, Eric Frederickson, to discuss how other towns had implemented various programs and how contracts are designed. J Geci will looking into other towns that have implemented PAYT.

The meeting adjourned at 5:20 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Kate Zullo