

Litchfield SMART Task Force Meeting Minutes

Held at Litchfield Fire House

April 12, 2023

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

Members Present: J Geci, K Zullo, H Simko, L Losee, D Wilson, C Liley (arrived 4:45)

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

MINUTES

Correction to minutes – typo of “moment” under Earth Day plans, insert “ideas” after under Old Business, and add the word “down” under Recycling Center update. D Wilson motion to approve, L Losee second. All approve.

SCHOOL UPDATE

Two more cabinets were built and delivered to Center School and the Litchfield Intermediate School. K Harris’s AP Environmental Science students will start teaching students at LIS and LCS about food composting on April 17th and 18th.

RECYCLING CENTER UPDATE

N Boccio shared the Quarter3 report. The report showed that the town is saving significantly with the new contract with USA Hauling. Some 30.63 yards of food scraps have been collected at the Recycling Center, with current savings over \$1000 to date. It is a good start and will continue to grow. Waste oil collection process is working out well.

EARTH DAY PREPERATIONS

N Boccio has organized the supplies for the Clean-up portion of our Earth Day activities. Tables will be supplied. H Simko shared the flyer with LABA members. The Litchfield Preservation Trust will be cleaning around the municipal parking lot. J Geci and N Boccio will staff the table at the Community Celebration with signs, flyers, and a compost layered jar and bucket. J Geci was on WZBG on Monday, 4/10, to promote Earth Day.

STOP AND SHOP COOPERATION

Stop and shop is cooperating in collecting plastic bags. The receptacle for plastic bags has been moved to where the carts are.

COMPOST BINS BY NRAA

The group discussed sourcing and selling compost bins to the townspeople. Several decades ago, there was an organized selling of compost bins, but the group felt that it would not work logistically.

DEEP SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT MATERIALS GRANT

D Raap reports that the NRAA grant is not applicable to this sized town. It deals with towns/cities on a much larger scale that could accommodate an aneorobic digester.

PROMOTION AND PUBLICITY

C Liley drafted the next newsletter. Her goal is to use a template and make it more substantial. C Liley would like to include more links to important articles and write-ups on what is going on in the town and also some looking at recycling and its challenges on a national and international scale.

WORKSHOPS AND CONFERENCES

N Boccio and D Raap went to the USA Hauling Recycling facility in Berlin, CT. They saw how the single stream recycling material is sorted, bailed, and sold.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

D Raap brought the need for recycling bins at the Litchfield Community Center. N Boccio will see what the town has, possibly using the blue bins that were used during the Concerts on the Green.

L Losee shared information about Agri-cycle, a business that collects bio material for reuse.

J Geci shared a book "Can I Recycle This" that is available at the library.

K Zullo motion to adjourn 5:17, C Liley second, all approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Kate Zullo