

From: Susan Mazurski March 29, 2012 11:03:25 AM
Subject: Recycling Committee Minutes 03/22/2012 DRAFT
To: SimsburyCT_RecycleMin
Cc:

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SIMSBURY RECYCLING COMMITTEE

TOWN HALL OFFICES--Room 103

Minutes for Thursday, March 22nd, 2012 at 7:30 p.m.

I. Call to Order:
Lori Fernand, Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:47 P.M.

Present: Lori Fernand, Jim Ray and Mary Turner

II. Introduction of New Member – Introduction of Jim Ray and Nancy Thoma were completed at the February meeting.

III. Approval of Minutes: February 23rd, 2012
Action could not be taken due to not having a quorum.

IV. Correspondence: - No correspondence

V. Recycling News:

An article was published in the Valley Press announcing the battery recycling effort sponsored by the Welden's Hardware. Lori will retry placing an article on the Patch.

Linda Schofield announced her last "Linda Litter Lugging day on April 21, 2012.

VI. Reports:

1. Swap Shoppe Opening

It was agreed that 5/12 is the best date for the official opening. The opening program should include Kevin Witkos, Linda Schofield and Mike Paine. The suggested time would be 9 am. Among the other dignitaries to be invited to attend would be the Board of Selectmen, the members of the Recycling Committee, the Chief of Police, Peter Ingvertsen, representatives from Simsbury Community TV and Civitan members. Lori will do the PR. A green ribbon will be placed across the entrance and a large pair of scissors will be available for the cutting ceremony. For refreshments a box of coffee and munches would be available from Duncan Donuts. Lori will give a brief comment/welcome and Mary Turner will give the history of the Swap Shoppe. A Civitan representative will have an opportunity to speak.

Members of Recycling Committee signed up to take a shift at the Swap Shoppe

2. Nike Reuse a Shoe 2012 Campaign

Lori passed out a draft of the Press Release and request letter which will be sent to proposed participants. The suggested locations for pickup are as follows:

Vincent's Little League fields – Mike Paine

Wagner's in door batting cage – Mike Paine

YMCA – Nancy Thoma

ISCC – Jim Ray

Battistons – Lori Fernand

Big Sky – Nancy Thoma

Town Hall & Library – Lori

Hopmeadow Nursery School - Lori

Farmington Valley Tennis Club - Lori

Simsbury High School – Liz Melvin

Antonio Restaurant – Jim Ray

A press release will go out April 1. Laminated signs will be taped onto the bins. Mary will work on the flyer. The timeframe for the collection is scheduled for April 23 through May 14.

3. Website Updates

None at this time

4. Legislative Updates

Mattress recycling (SB 89)

Connecticut disposes of 300-400,000 mattresses annually, at cost to the towns over \$1 million. The Mattress bill would require manufacturers to create a system to capture these mattresses and send them for component recycling, legal remanufacture, or other appropriate post-consumer disposal, Paid for by the manufacturers with costs ultimately borne by consumers instead of taxpayers, government, and society as a whole. Connecticut has in recent years implemented Extended Producer Responsibility (Product Stewardship) programs for electronic waste and unused paint. This program would operate in a similar fashion. As there would be no cost to dispose of a mattress, illegal dumping should be greatly reduced.

Safe Pharmaceutical Disposal (SB 92)

Protect the environment and improve public health and safety by implementing a safe pharmaceutical disposal program where State Police will be expected to house lockboxes for the anonymous disposal of unused and expired pharmaceutical drugs. Pharmacies throughout the state will also be required to provide educational materials to their customers, informing

them of the law and providing them with information about where they can dispose of their drugs. This will protect our environment by eliminating countless drugs, antibiotics, and hormones from ending up in our waterways and our ground water, while increasing public safety by providing the public with a safe, accessible place to dispose of their medications.

Mercury Thermometer Recycling (SB 93)

Mercury is highly neurotoxic to all of us and exposure to even a small amount can cause learning disorders and developmental delays in young children, and a single gram is enough to make all of the fish in a 20 acre lake unsafe to eat for a year. Connecticut was the first state in the U.S. to ban the sale of mercury thermostats, but we have never required manufacturers of mercury thermostats to take responsibility for the safe collection and proper recycling of the estimated 1.7 million mercury thermostats still in use in homes throughout the state. These thermostats go into our landfills and incinerators, releasing toxic mercury into our air and water. The proposed bill would require manufacturers of mercury thermostats to meet performance goals for collection of end-of-life mercury thermostats and pay minimum \$5 incentive to anyone returning a mercury thermostat to a recycling center. This approach has proved successful in other states and pilot programs.

5. Recycling Education Campaign

A. Lori met with Jim Goodwin at Simsbury Farm who informed her they donated 4,000 pounds of produce to food banks. There also is a staff member who runs a number of camp programs. On Wednesday, May 30 at 7pm an environmental educator who is to hold a program on gardening. The farm is interested in hosting a composting program. The farm wants to talk about the farm. Mary suggested she meet with the staff prior to the composting program to see if she could be of any assistance.

b. Post Card to residents – no new information

VI. Old Business:

1. Municipal Recycling Educational Event

No new report

VII. New Business

None

VIII. Adjournment – A motion to adjourn at 8:40 p.m. was made by Mary Turner and seconded by Jim Ray. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by

Mary Turner

