

Town of Hopkinton, NH

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Recycling Committee Minutes 11/07/06

Hopkinton/Webster Recycling Committee Meeting Minutes November 7, 2006

Present: Chris Lawless, addressStreetDon Lane, Debbie Augustine, Katherine Mitchell, Will Mellow, Chris MacKenzie, David Lancaster, Liane Kerbyson, Steve Clough

Guest: Ron Klemarczyk

The meeting commenced at 6:30 p.m. The minutes from the October meeting were approved with minor changes.

The committee briefly discussed an idea for reorganizing meetings to include taking turns facilitating and recording minutes since Lynne Hardy, who had been keeping the minutes, has resigned from the committee. No conclusions were reached. Chris Lawless volunteered to take the minutes for this meeting. Debbie asked the group if anyone was interested in co-chairing the committee and if not, she suggested that Katherine would be a good person for the job. Don proposed having a vice-chair instead to which the members agreed that Katherine should be that person, to which she agreed.

Debbie told the group that Lynne Hardy is stepping down from the committee and asked Don if he could let the Webster Board of Selectmen know that the committee is in need of two representatives from Webster. He promised to follow up. Debbie also said that Nancy Jackson-Reno would be unable to serve on the committee after all due to personal reasons.

Will and Chris Mackenzie reported that the Students for the Environment Club had made the signs for the transfer station and the Post Office and that the ones for the transfer station were already up. The club will also be doing a fundraiser walk on the streets of Hopkinton picking up trash as they go along. Half of the proceeds from the pledges they receive will go to the Rainforest Action Network, the other half will go the Club. They will use this money to buy recycling bins for the school. Ron Klemarczyk mentioned that there may be some money available for this through the Conservation Commission. Debbie promised to send them her media list to help them publicize the event with the local newspapers. The Club is also still looking to eliminate Styrofoam lunch trays and switch to reusable plastic trays at the high school lunchroom.

There was a spirited discussion about how the various different aspects of PAYT would work. The group is particularly concerned with residents who recycle with their waste hauler (in this case, Kimball) getting a fair shake if hauler trash is weighed at the transfer station with a higher tipping rate and no requirement that PAYT bags be used, as Steve Clough has proposed. They wondered how this system could be equitable for those using haulers (65 – 75% of Hopkinton residents, per Steve) and already recycling as much as possible. They also wondered how it could provide an incentive for people using haulers to recycle. The group reached no consensus about how to handle this issue and will continue their discussion at the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m. The next meeting will be December 7th.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Lawless
Debbie Augustine

