

Town of Hopkinton, NH

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Recycling Committee Minutes - 04/10/2007

Hopkinton/Webster Recycling Committee Meeting Minutes April 10, 2007

Present: Chris Lawless, Mary Leadbeater, David Lancaster, Don Lane, Debbie Augustine, Katherine Mitchell, Sally Embley, Bob Lapree

Guests: Bob Drown, Linda Hook

The meeting commenced at 6:30 p.m. Introductions were made. Bob Drown and Linda Hook were attending as representatives of Webster's Landfill Committee. The minutes from the March meeting were approved with no changes.

Bob Drown said that he didn't realize that the Landfill Committee and the Recycling Committee were separate committees but he was there, as a dairy farmer to express his concerns about Pay as You Throw (PAYT). He wants to see the figures about how it could save the town money. Don took his address and promised to send him that information. Mr. Drown also said that due to the volume and nature of his farm's waste, he believed PAYT would be a hardship for him – and that it's difficult for any of the 9 people living in his house to recycle. Don said that if Hopkinton goes PAYT, so will Webster or Webster will have to take its trash elsewhere. He went on to say that 20% of whatever is saved would belong to Webster.

Linda Hook said that if PAYT passed, she would be worried about illegal dumping, which is already a problem on her class-6 road. She said that people dump things like tires and appliances there now. Katherine (or Mary?) told her that studies show that although there may be some illegal dumping at first, typically it doesn't last long since things are rarely discarded without some identifying information mixed in. Linda is also concerned about getting summer residents to participate in PAYT. Sally said that she could raise the issue with the Lake Winnepocket Association, of which she is a member. She also said that PAYT must be done carefully, with good education and that research was needed before moving forward. She suggested surveying residents through the *Grapevine*, Webster's town newsletter to see if they would support a PAYT program. Katherine said that it might not be a good idea to ask them about PAYT before they had received information about what it is – but asking them about their current waste disposal practices would be good data to have.

The group reviewed David's revised PAYT proposal, agreed it was fine and that it was time to discuss a timeline and tasks. Chris and Katherine will work on the Power Point presentation using Canterbury's presentation as a template, which Debbie will e-mail to them. They will have it ready for the group to review at the May meeting. Once the committee approves it, it will be presented to the Hopkinton Board of Selectmen in June. Don said that it should be presented to Steve Clough before then to make sure it makes sense to him. The group volunteered Chris (who had left early) to run it by Steve sometime in May. Chris will also set up information on websites when it is ready. Organizations in town, such as the Rotary Club will also need to have their questions addressed. Public forums will be held in September or October in both Hopkinton and Webster. Another one will be held in Hopkinton closer to town meeting. Debbie will check to see about speakers (Liz Bedard from NRRA and Tony Ilacqua from Littleton) and meeting space (Community Room or Town Hall) in Hopkinton. Bob Lapree suggested checking with towns that have already implemented PAYT to see what the committee could learn from them.

Mary told the group that 52 compost bins had been sold. The group was pleased with this news. Steve Clough told Mary that the transfer station staff can handle the pick-up on May 19th, so no committee volunteers would be needed.

Bob Lapree told the committee about an electronics vendor called EMG that he met at the *Made in New Hampshire* expo that provides environmentally-correct electronics recycling. Debbie suggested he let Steve Clough know so that he can keep the contact info on file to use when he is looking for a new company. She will send Bob Steve's e-mail address. Bob also confirmed that he is interested in being a member of the committee. Debbie will submit his name to the Board of Selectman for their consideration.

The next meeting will be May 8th.

The meeting concluded at 8:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Debbie Augustine