

Lee Solid Waste Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
July 22, 2019, 6:30pm
Lee Public Library

Members present: Amy Schmidt (chair), Dean Rubine, Randy Stevens

Officials Present: Steve Bullek, Public Works Manager; Cary Brown, Selectman; Shirley McKeon, Swap Shop Volunteer Coordinator, Paul Gasowski, chair Lee Sustainability Committee

I. Call to order

6:42 pm

II. Approval of Minutes

6-24-19 minutes; Dean moved, Amy second, approved 3-0 unamended

III. Composting Pilot Implementation Update (Steve)

Steve Bullek, Public Works Manager, reported on the initial implementation of the composting pilot program.

Program going well. 54 signed up, not counting some additions since the program started. Three pickups of 275 pound bins, one mistaken pickup of a 70 pound bin.

The compost bags are not doing what we thought; they fail, disintegrating after a couple of days. The bins are disgusting. We clean them once per week.

Apparently old Tuttle's, now Tender Crop Farm, has better bags; find out what they have. Dean.

Get more participants – Portland, Oregon example.

Spending so far \$160 for bins, \$120 for bags. \$14/per bin pickup.

IV. Swap Shop Update (Steve)

Problems mentioned last meeting are under control, solved.

Flat screens tvs in swap shop; take money for bulky fees

\$5 for dressers? Suggest changes to bulky fee schedule? Cmte: Leave it be for now
Shirley: We'll keep track of how many we get.

Shirley: Stickers working ok, bulky fee tab

Steve: I'm still working on the acceptable item list, cleaning supplies for volunteers

Steve/Shirley: The parking lot is working out well. The fence near there will be fixed/finished in mid August.

V. Website (Amy)

We need to update the Transfer Station page. Check "additional links."

Box Tops for Education? (Cmte: keep going)

Swap Shop Page:

- Include rules, expand?

- Include bulky fee items

- Include acceptable item list

2018 Guide

- Still has only bulky fee schedule

- Add swap shop regulations

Compost - refers only to Yard waste

- Add info on food composting

Link: Other Plastics Update – no longer useful, remove

Guide to Recycling

- Maintained by Denise; look at new one, review/suggest changes

- Post 2019 version

Links between SWAC site and Transfer Station site

Website currently under construction; probably best to review new site and contact Denise with changes

VI. New Business

Steve: We're coming up with new stickers for the cars. (The stickers certify that a car belongs to a Lee resident with transfer station privileges.) Some folks think the current stickers are too large/too ugly. We're considering smaller stickers for the back of visors or mirrors.

Steve: Lee has Mandatory Recycling but we estimate only about 50% of the recyclable material finds its way to the correct bin.

Steve: we no longer accept porcelain or window panes in the glass bin. Waste Management wants to charge us \$150/ton if we include those in the glass.

Amy: Toby had a guy who would take the toilets. (Scott Grumbling? Concrete, bricks too)

Dean: Change signage to reflect changes

Cmte: We need an E-Crier article to explain the new glass rules, no windows. Toilets are Construction Debris. Bottle caps are MSW. Swap shop closed Jan, Feb, Mar. Dean will draft.

Steve: Peter at the transfer station is certified so we're removing refrigerant ourselves, and removing copper and aluminum ourselves. That saves \$9 per unit (AC or fridge), and we get paid on the refrigerant and the metal.

Steve: Lee Recycling income down \$12,000 in 2019 year on year.⁵⁵

VII. Public Comment

Paul Gasowski, chair of the Lee Sustainability Committee talked about the related work the LSC is doing.

- Composting of food waste at the Lee Fair
- Articles on plastic and other recycling (Jen Messeder)
- LSC turning toward reducing waste upstream
 1. Making better consumer choices
 2. Sep-Dec: Focusing on one Use Less topic per month
Reduce/Repair/Reuse-Resell/Recycle
 3. Idea for a Transfer Station Festival: Education/Entertainment/Information. Athletic events to involve repurposing things in the swap shop. A competition. At ORHS, winter carnival pentathlon. Snow related. Teams. Bobsled race. Jill Nooney's use of found objects.

VIII. Next Meeting date and topics for Agenda.

Monday August 19, 2019, 6:30 pm

Agenda: as mentioned above

IX. Adjournment

7:57 pm