

Lee Solid Waste Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
September 30, 2019 6:30pm
Lee Safety Complex

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

Officials present: Cary Brown, Selectman

Officials absent: Steve Bullek, Public Works Manager

Public present: Paul Gasowski, chair Lee Sustainability Committee

I. Call to order - 6:50 pm

Dean is sorry for being late.

II. Approval of Minutes

8-19-2019 minutes tabled. Dean will distribute.

III. Recycling Market Update, (Randy)

Randy got a market report from the NRRA, which has been scanned and included at the end of these minutes.

IV. Composting update

Amy thought Steve would soon suggest the Selectboard make the Composting program permanent. Dean pointed out the program loses a bit of money and any such suggestion should be accompanied by a report from the committee. There is still the possibility of regulations from Concord that will let us compost at the transfer station.

V. The SWC's Future

Amy: Randy is resigning from the committee, which is really too bad because he has all the experience, expertise and common sense.

Randy: We need more members doing something. The committee seems a waste of time lately. The new management at the transfer station seems to be less interested in input from the committee. The Sustainability Committee is doing what we should be doing.

The transfer station manager has to communicate with the SWC for it to function. But the manager has been getting approval from the selectboard for changes not discussed by the SWC. The SWC could do other things: visit other transfer stations to see how they do things for example, but they're not. We haven't met for six weeks – so long that I've lost interest and moved on to other projects. It's sad to leave. I suggest the chair meet with the selectman and transfer station manager to see if the committee is needed. There are other people who might serve but Monday night is difficult.

Amy: I feel responsible as chair. I don't have the time to devote. The non-selectboard Monday night meeting schedule sometimes has a big gap when holidays fall on Monday.

I think things have improved and are running smoother as a result of the committee's work. There is a problem with lack of communication between the manager and the committee.

Randy: We weren't informed about Toby until a regular meeting five days after he was terminated.

Amy: I regret some of Steve's meetings here didn't go well; he looks pained and exhausted when he's here.

Dean: I was angry Steve made all the changes at the recent select board meeting, new bin, etc., without consulting the committee. I was thinking of resigning myself.

Randy: It's a big job to communicate with the committee. It's another Monday night away from his family on top of the selectboard Mondays.

Amy: The committee helped get things worked out at the Swap Shop.

Randy: We were a good sounding board

Amy: Compost is a good program. Maybe we should consider merging Sustainability and Solid Waste Committee. Thoughts, Paul?

Paul: I hesitate to speak for the Lee Sustainability Committee. The LSC is also very small; currently at four, soon five, could reasonably use 7 or 8. We're settling into a schedule of three efforts per year, this year (1) Reduction, (2) Lee's Trees & local environment, (3) maybe low carbon diet or water awareness. We're a clearinghouse and vehicle to help other groups. We help SWC with PR. SWC does the economics, LSC gets the word out. If solid waste became the only thing LSC did that would be no good. The SWC has a lot of value.

Amy: We do appreciate the advertising the LSC does. We got some misinformation.

Randy: The market changes all the time.

Dean: Are we talking about caps on plastic bottles? What's the current rule?

Randy: Our equipment can't crush capped bottles, so the caps need to be removed.

Randy: I went to Dover for Hazardous Household Waste Disposal. Got there before opening, had a half hour wait. Staff was courteous and friendly.

Amy: Let's get back to the future of the committee.

Cary: Can we review the committee's charge?

Amy read through the charge, which is:

Solid Waste Advisory Committee

The Solid Waste Advisory Committee shall be comprised of five Lee residents who will be appointed by the Select Board.

The charge of this Committee is as follows:

Advise and assist the Select Board and Transfer Station staff regarding the Town of Lee's solid waste management program, with the primary goals of minimizing hauling, disposal and pollution costs and protecting the environment. Key components are:

1. Research new waste disposal technologies and new or changed governmental regulations, and make recommendations for possible new approaches for solid waste disposal
2. Review the handling, transportation, and disposal costs associated with bulky items and make recommendations regarding an appropriate fee structure
3. Investigate changes in the local and worldwide demand for recycled materials and make recommendations for best practices and maximum revenue
4. Investigate ways to achieve reductions in amount of material brought to the transfer station as solid waste
5. Research ways to make composting at the Transfer Station viable
6. Review operations of the Swap Shop and make recommendations to update policies
7. Assist with the Household hazardous waste program
8. Create a public education and communication program to engage the residents, businesses, civic groups, and town committees on all matters related to solid waste disposal and recycling, with an emphasis on encouraging and increasing recycling and reducing solid waste

Adopted by the Lee Select Board on June 18, 2018

The committee discussed the significant contributions it made in each of these areas.

Randy: We really should meet every three weeks because things change so often.

Amy: Are these or other changes we can make to make you reconsider resigning?

Cary: The committee should meet with Steve and hash out his concerns.

Amy: Meet with Steve and hang at the transfer station an hour a month.

Cary: The committee can't function without Steve. Sit down and see how you can get back on track.

Randy: Ask the board if you still want us.

Cary: The board won't know the details; they'll want you to work out your issues and advise them as charged.

Amy: You come to the meetings, you know the details.

Cary: I'll tell the board what's up. Visiting other transfer stations is a good idea. We learned a lot visiting Eliot.

Randy: In 1987 when we started we visited all over the place, many other towns.

Amy: I'm stretched thin to the point where it would be difficult to squeeze in even one field trip a month. I'm ok with meetings and research from home but beyond that it's difficult to find the time.

Cary: Everybody has demands on their time; finding members is a big problem town wide. As the Select Board rep I'm here to listen and transfer information to and from the Select Board. I'll relay the committee is struggling.

Paul: I was surprised that when Toby left that Steve got the job as just an additional responsibility. It was a challenging time, with the changes to the market from China. Was that an economic decision? Maybe Steve needs an assistant.

Randy: In Durham there's a head of Public Works with foreman supervisors from each department reporting to him.

Paul: I'm empathetic to Steve's position. It's a challenging job. Things come up. Was it fair to give him that extra responsibility?

Cary: He's been doing an excellent job and doesn't complain about the additional work. He took the initiative, implementing the compost program with little oversight and managing the changes to the market.

Randy: There needs to be a lot of communication between Steve, the transfer station staff, the town administration, the selectboard and the solid waste committee.

Cary: I think it's best if I talk to Steve, find out if he has issues, what problems he has with the committee, what the committee can do for him, how it can work better into his schedule.

Dean: If he doesn't feel the committee has value, that's fine. I thought we'd found our niche explaining changes to the recycling procedures, setting fees and swap shop policy, getting the compost program going, processing community feedback, etc. That seems like useful work that Steve would otherwise have to do himself. But it's really up to him; I don't want to waste my time either.

Amy: I'm stepping down as chair; I don't have the time.

Dean: There has to be buy-in from Steve. Anyway without a quorum the committee can't do anything, with or without a chair. Let's let Cary meet with Steve.

Randy: Let's get goals from Steve. I think I'm doing the right thing causing an emergency by resigning.

The committee thanks Randy for his service as a member and Amy for her service as chair.

VI. Adjournment

No additional meeting scheduled pending Steve's inclinations

Meeting adjourned 7:44 pm

Respectfully Submitted - Dean Rubine

Market Pricing for September 2019		NRRRA PRICE GUIDE for Members Only	
**Please Note: THIS IS ONLY A GUIDE - does not reflect pricing for specific locations. Some items may be subject to rental/haul fees. NRRRA uses multiple vendors; prices vary & subject to change			
ALWAYS CALL FOR QUOTE			MARKET DIRECTION
<u>ALERT: ALL FIBERS CONTAMINATED OR NOT MEETING SPEC SUBJECT TO CHARGE UP TO \$225/TON PLUS TRANSPORT</u>			
Fibers:		Revenue / (Cost)	
Baled Mixed Paper	delivered	(\$35 - \$5.00 CHARGE)	NC
Loose Mixed Paper	delivered	(\$95 - \$5.00 CHARGE)	NC
Baled SOP (Sorted Office Paper)	(20 - 22 ton target)	\$90 - \$95/ton	Revenue Down \$10.00
Baled OCC	(20 - 22 ton target)	\$20 - \$35/ton	NC
Loose OCC	delivered	\$0 - \$20/ton	NC
Loose Books in Gaylords	delivered	No Market	
Magazines ONLY	delivered	(\$0 - \$25/ton CHARGE)	Charge UP \$5.00
#8 News WITHOUT Magazines *CLEAN & DRY*	delivered	\$45 - \$55	Revenue DOWN \$10.00
Plastics: *REMINDER: NO Headers on TABB Loads**			
PET Baled	(35,000 lbs. target)	Call NRRRA for Pricing	
HDPE Natural Baled	(35,000 lbs. target)	\$ 0.175 - 0.27/lb.	Revenue UP \$0.085
HDPE Colored Baled	(35,000 lbs. target)	\$0.075 - 0.095/lb.	Revenue UP \$0.005
HDPE "Z" Mixed Baled	(35,000 lbs. target)	\$0.075 - 0.095/lb.	Revenue UP \$0.005
#1 - #7 Baled	(30-40,000 lbs. target)	(\$0.02) - \$0.04/lb.	NC
Commingle - Loose (with or without glass):	delivered	(\$134 - \$94/ton)	Charge UP \$6.00
Single Stream Loose:	delivered	(\$130 - \$52/ton)	NC
MSW	delivered	(\$120 - \$70/ton)	NC
C&D	delivered	(\$79 - \$71/ton)	NC
C&D Source Separated Wood	delivered	(\$60/ton)	NC
C&D White Wood	delivered	(\$50/ton)	NC
Scrap Metal:			
Scrap Metal	delivered	\$55 - \$85/gt	Revenue DOWN \$20.00
Steel Cans Baled	(40,000 lbs. target)	\$75 - \$145/gt	Revenue DOWN \$25.00
Steel Cans Baled	(light loads - delivered)	\$15 - \$40/gt	Revenue DOWN \$10.00
Steel Cans Loose	delivered	\$15 - \$30/gt	Revenue DOWN \$10.00
Non-ferrous Metals			
		PRICED DAILY	
Aluminum Cans Baled (UBCs only)	(40,000 lbs. target)	\$0.37 - \$0.42 lb	NC
Aluminum Cans Baled	(light loads - delivered)	\$0.26 - \$0.31 lb	Revenue DOWN \$0.11
Aluminum Cans Loose	delivered	\$0.24 - \$0.26 lb.	Revenue DOWN \$0.02
Batteries (lead)		\$0.22 - \$0.36/lb.	NC
Vegetable Oil		\$0.25/gal.	NC
Freon Recovery (eff. 4/1 through 9/30)	25 unit min.	(8) (\$9) per unit	NC
Glass PGA	delivered	(\$35/ton)	NC
Fluorescent Bulbs		(\$0.06/ft - \$0.11/ft)	NC
CFL's/U-tubes		(\$0.35/ea - \$0.55/ea.)	NC
Electronics - CRT TVs & Monitors	plus transport	(\$.49 - \$.205)	NC
Mixed Electronics - Printers, VCRs etc.	plus transport	(\$.12 - \$.14/lb.)	NC
CPU & Laptop (credits available)	plus transport	(\$0.06) - \$0.09 lb.	NC
Propane Tanks: Min. pick-up (25) 20 pounders	*No Helium Tanks, PLAN AHEAD*	\$25.00 p/u charge	NC
20 LB (good cond/poor cond)		\$2.00 Revenue/\$2.50 Charge	NC
30 LB		\$8.00 Charge	NC
40 LB		\$12.00 Charge	NC
5 LB & 10 LB		\$ 2.00 Charge	NC
1 LB		\$ 1.00 Charge	NC
100 LB		NO MARKET	NC
Shingles	plus transport	(\$48.00 - \$69.00/ton)	NC
Gaylords- Slightly Used, Cardboard	(25 min.)	(\$10/ea.)	NC
Baling Wire- Various sizes	plus transport	(\$30 - \$100/bundle)	NC