



TOWN OF BROOKLINE, NEW HAMPSHIRE

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Transfer Station Evaluation Committee Minutes Wednesday, August 15, 2018

Attendees included committee members Jim Solinas, Peter Lemay, Guy Wadsworth, Ron Olsen, Joan Cudworth, Jerry Farwell, Kel Bachus, Mike Wenrich and Tad Putney as well as Selectboard member Eddie Arnold.

Jim opened the meeting at 6:29pm.

Public Input

There was no public input.

Planet Aid

Jim introduced **Ed Whittenauer** and **Patrick Holland** of Planet Aid. **Ed** said they were interested in placing a box to collect items at the Transfer Station similar to the existing Salvation Army boxes. He said that Planet Aid pays 5 cents per pound collected to the town and they will come every week to empty the box. **Peter** asked what is done with the donated goods. **Ed** said that it goes to Hudson and is shipped to other countries; some is disposed of as trash. **Patrick** said that toys are repurposed. **Patrick** said that the Milford Transfer Station has four different companies with donation boxes. **Joan** said that she has worked with **Patrick** in the past and they have been very timely and responsive. **Ed** said that they would provide a two-year contract, but if the town changes its mind at any time, they will come remove the box. **Tad moved, seconded by Peter, to have Planet Aid provide a contract for him to take to the next Selectboard meeting for approval of one box; Voted Yes 9-0.**

Minutes

Joan moved, seconded by Kel, to approve the minutes of the June 13, 2018 meeting as written; Voted Yes 8-0-1, with Mike abstaining.

Process Observer/Meeting Process

Jim shared a draft document to serve as a guideline for meetings, which is similar to a document used by the Hollis Brookline Budget Committee. After discussion and edits, **Peter moved, seconded by Guy, to approve the Process Observer and Meeting Process document as amended; Voted Yes 9-0.**

Update on New Compactor

Jerry said there have been unexpected electrical issues impacting the installation of the new plastics compactor. He said a needed part was ordered last Friday and is expected

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to be here in about four weeks. **Peter** asked when the other compactor will be ready. **Jerry** said he was not sure. **Tad** asked if it will be by the end of the year. **Jerry** said yes. **Jim** said we need to be ready with signage to help educate residents on what goes in the new plastics compactor. **Joan** said she will fill a bag next week that has examples of items to go in the new compactor and **Jim** can have them to make a display board. **Jim** said he would pick it up next week. ***Peter moved, seconded by Kel, for Jim to secure a bag of sample items and a sign that either exists from Hollis or order one from NH the Beautiful by the end of next week; Voted Yes 9-0.***

New Glass Recycling Requirements

Jim referenced a recent announcement from NRRA advising towns that we are required to have only glass bottles and jars, with covers removed, in the glass recycle bin. No more porcelain or other items are permitted. After a discussion of signage options, **Joan** suggested **Jim** use a white board to advise residents as it does well in all weather and allows for immediate changes to the sign message. ***Tad moved, seconded by Peter, that he will post the new requirements to the town website, Brookline Facebook page and police sign board tomorrow and that Jerry or Mike would get Jerry's white board to the Transfer Station tomorrow; Voted Yes 9-0.***

Rules of Operation

Committee members reviewed the current Rules of Operation and agreed to suggested edits.

Fee Schedule

Committee members went through the current Fee Schedule. **Tad** shared information on year-to-date revenues and expenses related to construction debris. He said that revenue to date was \$5,454 and expenses for disposal were \$9,194. He said the shortfall was not a surprise as disposal costs have recently increased from \$71 per ton to \$100 per ton. **Jerry** asked what Hollis currently charges for disposal of construction debris. **Joan** said Hollis recently increased its prices and noted \$54 per cubic yard for sheetrock and pressure treated wood (versus Brookline's \$30) and \$42 per cubic yard for painted wood, paneling and plywood (versus Brookline's \$15). **Joan** also said that plastic/composite material should go into the trash rather than construction debris. If put in construction debris, she said it can result in a "contaminated" load and increase disposal to \$120 per ton. ***Jerry moved, seconded by Mike, to recommend increasing the construction debris fees closer to Hollis's levels for action at the next Selectboard meeting; Voted Yes 9-0.***

Tad shared information on recent costs for Freon removal compared to the revenue generated. He said for the period May 3rd to July 3rd, Freon was removed from a total of 89 units at \$9 per unit for a total cost of \$801. During that time, we collected a total of \$825. While we just covered our costs, **Tad** noted that we only collected revenue for 24 of the 48 air conditioners. It was suggested that we may want to put a mark or paper sticker on each unit when it is paid for so that attendants can identify when units have been left, but not paid for.

Joan suggested that we consider removing some items from the Fee Schedule. She said that couches and mattresses could be eliminated. She also suggested that we eliminate

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the fee for white goods that do not have Freon as they generate revenue. **Jerry** said that we do need to remove gas and oil from the riding mowers and snow blowers, which requires staff time and therefore justifies a fee. **Kel moved, seconded by Peter, to assign a team (later determined to be comprised of Kel and Peter) to compare our fee schedule with similarly sized towns over the next two weeks; Voted Yes 9-0.**

Scrap Metal Update

Jerry said that the recent metal pile disposal netted the town about \$100 per ton. **Peter** asked if any precious metals were separated. **Jerry** said some aluminum was taken out, but it was mostly light iron. **Peter** asked about the opportunities to separate precious metals for increased revenue to the town. **Tad** said that Schnitzer has said they would provide us with up to five Gaylord bins for separated metal, but that he thinks we need to get a large roll-off container that can be set near the metal pile to hold the Gaylords and allow it to be locked. In the interim, it was agreed that the barn can be used for securing separated metals in smaller barrels and **Mike** can take the metals to Townsend or Schnitzer until a roll-off is in place. **Tad** said once a roll-off is in place, Slocum could be used to transport the precious metals to Schnitzer. **Jim** suggested we have the metal pile process as an agenda item for the next meeting; members agreed.

Next Meeting

The next meeting agenda items are expected to include:

- Metal pile process/team
- Milk jug compacting update
- Glass bin update
- Public education/notification discussion
- Construction debris covers for potential savings

Peter said a future meeting should include discussion of the longer-term plans for the DPW and how a facility at the Transfer Station should consider both DPW and Transfer Station needs.

Members agreed the next meeting should be limited to 90 minutes. **Kel** suggested the agenda should plan on no more than 70 minutes and allow for some slippage, but still remain within the 90 minute limit.

The next meeting will be on **Wednesday, September 5th and begin at 6:30pm.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:20pm.

Minutes submitted by Tad Putney.