

Recycling Ad Hoc Committee
Council Chamber, Newtown Municipal Center
3 Primrose Street, Newtown CT
Wednesday, February 16, 2022

Minutes

Present: First Selectman Dan Rosenthal, Maureen Crick Owen, Lisa Kessler, Ryan Knapp, Laura Miller and Chris Gardner

Also Present: Public Works Director, Fred Hurley, Rich O'Neill - Oak Ridge and Fred Pendergast

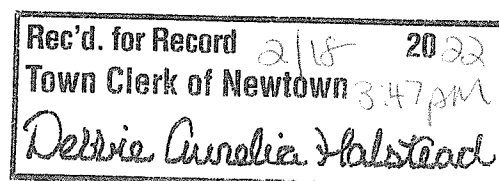
Call to Order: First Selectman Rosenthal called the meeting to order at 6:32pm

Voter Comment: None

New Business:

Meeting with Vendors: Dan Rosenthal welcomed Rich O'Neil and Fred Pendergast and updated them on the purpose of the group and past meetings with HRRRA, etc. Laura Miller asked if Rich and Fred had any sense for how many residents participate. The 45% from the survey result struck Fred as low but he said it isn't cut and dry as participation can vary greatly week over week. Dan Rosenthal asked how many times they had to break from their route to take material to Danbury? Fred answered that it was typically twice on a busy day. Chris Garder asked about trends they were seeing? Fred shared that he thought education was necessary based on what he is seeing. Rich shared that in Greenwich he recalled they used fliers for a number of years as part of their education strategy. Ryan Knapp asked about moving to larger containers? Rich said more would get recycled and it wouldn't get wet like the open containers but more trash would make its way into the single stream. Dan Rosenthal asked what would happen if we ended curbside pick up? Fred answered that people would be angry as they view it as a service being taken away and he and Rich felt that much of the recycling would wind up in the solid waste stream. Ryan Knapp asked who was on the hook for contaminated material? Fred Hurley and Dan Rosenthal thought the towns through HRRRA would likely be responsible in most cases. Dan Rosenthal asked about separating the material at the curb and Fred Pendergast responded that it would be difficult as the vendors would need new trucks to accommodate and they would fill up faster, requiring additional trips to Danbury and extending the pick up process. Picking up glass separately would cause excess wear and tear on the truck bodies as well.

Voter Comment: None



Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 7:26

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel Rosenthal