



H·R·R·A
www.hrra.org

Old Town Hall
162 Whisconier Road
Brookfield, CT 06804

203.775.6256 x304
203.740.9167
info@hrra.org

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**Regional Recycling Task Force Meeting
Thursday, October 1, 2009, 10:30 a.m.
Brookfield Town Hall
Second Floor Conference Room**

MINUTES

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:40 a.m. Those present included A. Colley and D. Leslie (BK), M. Pascento and R. Byrnes (SH), S. Von Holt and T. McSherry (NM), L. Kulowiec (RE), B. Germinaro (BE), E. Rossini and G. Bishop (RI), P. Ross (NF), T. Cutsumpas (DA), B. Hillier (NM Farms), Anton Coviello from Ridgefield Metals Recycling (guest), and C. Reedy (HRRRA). The RRTF welcomed Art Colley, the Director of Business and Technology Operations for the Brookfield Public Schools as the new representative of the Brookfield BOE.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by S. Von Holt, second by E. Rossini, to approve the minutes of September 3, 2009 as presented. **Vote:** All in favor except T. McSherry abstaining since he was not at the September meeting.

Recycling Goal Setting for 2009-10

New Milford - as reported by S. Von Holt

- Goals met for 08-09 included newspaper bins placed in all town offices, paper recycling started in Town Hall, reuse program for Tyvex envelopes, use of recycled plastic and/or returnable bags at food distribution by the social service department, recycling bins at Village Fair Days for the first time, a town wide bulky waste collection provided by the public works department, and a change in P&Z regulations allowing for adequate space on site plans for both MSW and recycling containers.
- Goals set for 2009-10 - start recycling bottles and cans at Town Hall, adopt an environmentally preferable purchasing policy, including less toxic cleaning supplies for town buildings.

Sherman - as reported by R. Byrnes

- Goals met for 2008-09 - Nike Reuse-a-Shoe collection now goes on year round, changed to 100% recycling copy paper when price is right, and doubled the office paper recycled in town hall.
- Goals set for 2009-10 - Start household alkaline battery recycling and take batteries collected to Cornell, add a second roadside cleanup in the fall for tires and scrap metal, maintain the good work on recycling at the Town Hall and bring the recycling program to other town buildings such as the Old Town Hall, Firehouse, Public Works, etc.

City of Danbury - as reported by T. Cutsumpas

- Goals met for 2008-09 - instituted paper recycling in all 16 city buildings which resulted in collecting approximately 6 tons of office paper each quarter.
- Goal for 2009-10 - to get the Danbury public schools to adopt the same paper recycling program at the 20 school buildings.

Bethel Board of Education - as reported by B. Germinaro

- Goals met for 2008-09 - collect bottles and cans in each classroom and put paper bins in each area, have each principal set recycling goals for their own buildings, and include environmentally preferable purchasing language in each bid specification
- Goals set for 2009-10 - continue participation in the HRRRA hazardous waste day collections; continue school participation in the regional recycling poster contest; increase the number of recycling bins on school athletic fields; start program for the proper disposal of spent medications with local drug stores; design a TV show with student participants to raise recycling awareness; start a program for the proper disposal of spent electronic equipment, and standardize the town and school recycling efforts so that each town building has a recycling program similar to each school.

Ridgefield - as reported by E. Rossini and G. Bishop

- Goals met for 2008-09 - put bottle and can recycling bins on Main St., and made recycling cans available at the Concerts in the Park and in the football field concession area.
- Goals set for 2009-10 - maintain excellent recycling program in Town Hall and other town facilities, support a school composting project at Branchville School, make recycling cans available at the other four fields in town with concession stands, encourage use of reusable bags by local merchants, and make information on drywall recycling available to local contractors.

New Fairfield Board of Education - as reported by P. Ross

- Goals met for 2008-09 - recycling bins for paper and bottles & cans in all buildings.
- Goals set for 2009-10 - maintain program in the schools and add recycling at the school athletic fields

Brookfield Board of Education - as reported by A. Colley

- Goals set for 2009-10 - coordinate the recycling programs at all the schools and involved the Superintendent and Principals, determine how changes in the recycling program may affect custodial staff and work to mitigate any problems, use the local educational cable Channel 17 to get the word out within the school system on recycling, do a review of school policy to determine compliance and compatibility with recycling and reuse.

Brookfield Schools Parent Volunteer - as reported by D. Leslie

- Goals met for 2008-09 - Huckleberry Hill School Go Green Team started; on site garden and composting program started at HHES, started recycling juice pouches, Go Green Team started at Center School, and one of the highest rates of school participation in the poster contest.

Redding - as reported by L. Kulowiec

- Goals set for 2009-10 - to film a tour of the Redding Recycling Center and provide tape to the local public access channel, make a presentation on recycling to Grade 3 at RES every year, start a printer/toner cartridge recycling in town and school buildings, visit all schools

and municipal buildings throughout the year to check on compliance as well as all local restaurants, provide a link to the HRRA website from the Town homepage, and include a section on recycling in the town handbook.

Sherman Board of Education - as reported by M. Pascento

- Goals met for 2008-09 - All calendars and newsletters are provided to parents online and no longer back packed home with students; continued with the sneaker recycling program; conferred with school's solid waste and recycling hauler to learn how to do a better job; started a 3 member school recycling committee; stopped using Styrofoam trays in the school cafeteria; created a recycled book shelf (take one/give one), created Trashless Tuesdays at the school; and started collecting soda can tabs for recycling.
- Goals set for 2009-10 - Investigate food waste collection and composting service for the school cafeteria working with New Milford Farms.

New Milford Board of Education - as reported by T. McSherry

- Goals met for 2008-09 - recycling programs inside school buildings are in really good shape; food waste recycling/composting program was ready to go but got delayed due to budget cuts.
- Goals set for 2009-10 - work on athletic fields to improve bottle and can recycling; have students create recycling program for the local education cable Channel 17.

Any municipality or Board of Education that was not in attendance at the October meeting can present their 2009-10 goals and objectives either by e-mail or at the November meeting.

Adjournment

Without objection the meeting was adjourned at 12:10 p.m.