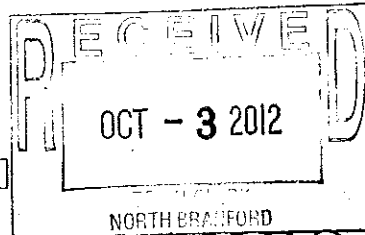


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TOWN OF NORTH BRANFORD

TOWN HALL 909 FOXON ROAD, NORTH BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT 06471-1290
TOWN MANAGER (203) 484-6000 FAX (203) 484-6025

Agenda Minutes HAZARDOUS WASTE/RECYCLING COMMITTEE Thursday, September 13, 2012 Town Hall - 7:30 p.m.

Members Present: Mary Bigelow, Thomas Scelfo, Elizabeth Boissard, Hank Petroskey, Donna Cordone, David Bowen, Deborah Anderson, Art Feldman and Nancy Cianciulli
Members Absent: Abbie Walston, Michelle Knockwood
Guest: Michael Martin

- 1) **Call to Order**
The discussion started at 7:35 p.m. by Chairperson Mary Bigelow.
- 2) **Pledge of Allegiance**
The Committee faced the flag and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 3) **Speaker- John Bozzuto**
Andy Bozzuto was unable to attend due to a conflict. He sent a letter to Tom and committee members which will be attached to the minutes.
- 4) **Approval of Minutes of July 12, 2012** Art Feldman made a motion to approve the minutes of July 12, 2012; seconded by Debbie Anderson; all were in favor. Nancy Ciancuilli abstained.
- 5) **Correspondence**
 - Thank you note from Totoket TV for our Donation in honor of Richard Bigelow
 - Passed around informative posters from NLRgreen.com @lamps, ewaste, batteries, ballasts and mercury devices. Tom felt they should be displayed in the schools.
 - DEP event recycling resources magazine
 - North Branford MSW chart for tonnage from CRRA for the past 3 years. We discussed the fact that our tonnage has gone down
 - P2View flier
- 6) **Report from Purchasing Assistant Michelle Knockwood** none



7) Sub-Committee Reports:

School Liaison – Hank Petroskey– Hank contacted the high school and TVES teachers again concerning the recycling contest in the fall. Both teachers felt their schedules were too busy. Hank will contact the high school principal, Mr. Stoeffler.

Schools are doing single stream recycling already. Bill Chote complaining that the trash is not being picked up in a timely manner. It was suggested we leave it up to the schools to discuss it with the trash hauler. Hank will follow up with the superintendent and see what he has to say since he was supposed to meet with Bozzuto's.

Public Relations & Video presentations – Art Feldman – Gina has been unavailable but he will try to track her down to determine the most frequently asked questions about recycling and hazardous waste so our committee can make a question and answer video. He has contacted the Cable Access with updates from our committee about events. Michelle received a phone call from a radio station. They are interested in having a representative speak on air about North Branford's recycling and our goals. Art will call Michelle and get more information.

Website is still a problem. Art has gone through about half but still needs serious revision and updates. Michael Martin (our guest) may be able to help.

Welcome Kit- Elizabeth Boissard- Liz reported that she sent out 16 cards for August. We will continue to send cards until Nov 2012 and then reassess the need since the town is going automated.

Answering Machine Information – Deborah Anderson – Deb said she updated the message to include our e-waste collection date on October 6, 2012. She also added information for the leaf recycling program

Bin Row Containers – David Bowen – Dave stated all the bins were OK.

Publicity & Articles – Donna & Nancy – Donna continues to send press releases to The Totoket Times, The Sound and Patch.com. In the next issues, she will advertise the ewaste on Oct. 6 and the Haz/Waste Home Town Day on Oct 13th. She will also put in the dates for our leaf drop off.

Report Town Council – none

Report on August 11, & September 8, 2012 Recyclables Collection-

Aug. 11: 20 cars, 3 propane tanks; collected \$3

Sept. 8: 43 cars, 4 helium tanks, 14 11lb propane, 8 20lb propane and 50+ tires; collected \$43. Discussed adding 'no fee for tires' on our card.

Solid Waste Contract – Tom hasn't seen the signed contract. Will ask Michelle to give it to us because some items were changed from the original contract.

Leaf start up – Liz has started contacting organizations for volunteers. Can also call high school or churches to get volunteers.

8) Other Business:

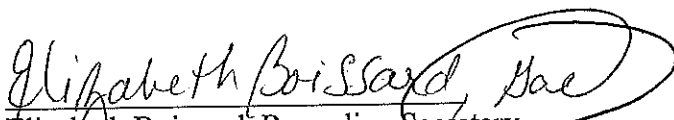
- **Status regarding future appointments** Debbi Ferraro is still interested but had a conflict for this meeting. Maybe contact Laura Magaraci again. Michael Martin is also interested.
- **Volunteers for October 6, 2012 Ewaste/Recyclables Collection**
Deb and Liz volunteered; Art, Mary, Hank or Donna might be back up.
- **Hazwaste Central volunteers for October 13, 2012** Liz and Donna volunteered. Hank may be able to attend.
- **Sign Status** New signs are installed at the Recycle building. This item can now be removed from the agenda.

9) Miscellaneous: Michael Martin introduced himself and gave us a little background. He is retired and would like to join our committee. He will give his information to Mary who will then give it to the Town Council to be approved. He mentioned he has expertise in website design from Southern and could help Art with our updates.

Tom suggested giving Andy a copy of our recycle card at the Oct meeting so he can help us when we revise it.

10) Citizen's Statement none

11) Adjournment: There being no further business, Dave made a motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Art. The meeting was adjourned at 8:58pm.


Elizabeth Boissard, Recording Secretary
Hazardous Waste/Recycling Committee

September 13, 2012

Dear Tom and Haz-Waste Committee Members,

I would like to apologize for not being able to attend tonight's meeting. As you know, I had a conflict in my schedule, however, I am always available to answer any questions. There are a few issues that I know are of concern to the committee, so I would like to address them now.

First and foremost, there seems to be confusion on what single-stream recycling entails. Single-stream recycling includes ALL plastics, paper and metal; it is NOT just water bottles, soda cans, newspaper and cardboard. We can now recycle almost anything...from Playscapes to "farm applications" plastic. And the majority of the "trash" being thrown into trash cans is recyclable. If you were to open any toter located at one of the parks in town, you would find that approximately 90% of the material in it is recyclable. And if you look through your own household trash, you will see that most of your content is recyclable. In our waste-stream, packaging alone (excluding food waste) has become 80% recoverable. We are literally witnessing the transition of waste to reusable commodities by recycling our packaging.

In an effort to accommodate and expedite the single-stream process, we have taken the following initiatives:

- 1) **Toter Barrel Distribution:** We have entered into a contract with Rehrig Industries for the purchase of 9500 toter barrels for the residents of Northford/North Branford. All of the 95-gallon barrels are colored in either blue (for single stream) or brown (for trash), per Town Council's request. Each barrel will also have a list of the "Acceptable & Non-Acceptable items" stamped on the lid, as well as an RFD FD code (barcode) to track each barrel. All residents will get one of each barrel by January 15, 2013. In an effort to educate and explain the new system, we have created a 30 minute education interview with Frank Mentone to be aired on the public access channel. We will also be placing an announcement in the Totoket Times explaining the single-stream program and automation system.
- 2) **Recycling in the School System:** We met with Superintendent Schoomaker, (as well as with Don Winnicki, Council Member Angeloni, Janitorial Superintendent Bill Chote and the janitorial staff at the schools) to brief them and educate them on the fact that, excluding food waste, all other material in the schools is single stream, or "dry-waste", and is recoverable. We want to eventually move forward and implement food waste recycling throughout the school system. We currently provide these services to schools such as Choate and Mercy High School; Choate is at 90% waste free, while Mercy is at 87%. Staff and students were educated when we started the programs, and they have run successfully since.
- 3) **Food Waste Recycling:** Removing compostable food waste, or "wet-waste", from our waste-stream will leave us with only dry-waste. And most dry-waste is single-stream recyclable material. Understanding the concept and application of single-stream/food waste recycling is imperative. Many misunderstood the system and application that was implemented at the Potato Festival this year. We placed barrels throughout the festival and

found that the barrels in the parking areas and fairways met the standards of 5-10% contamination; 90-95% of material was recyclable. However, the barrels under the food tent were not as successful and those were disposed of as trash. We did, however, collect about 30% of food waste volume from the festival preparation (potatoes, corn husks, etc). Next year, we would like to implement the food-waste recycling programs and place food waste barrels there instead. All other barrels will remain the same and contain the dry-waste only for single-stream recycling. It would be extremely beneficial to ban Styrofoam from schools and town events, such as the Potato Festival. (Styrofoam is non-recyclable and non-biodegradable)

In closing, I am very eager and happy to work with the Haz-Waste Committee. Our goal is be able to recover the highest rates of recyclable material in the state! Because of our beliefs and our passions, we, The Bozzuto family, have pioneered food-waste collection in the State of Connecticut. Before any other company started doing it, we started our own company, Global Environmental Service of CT, to offer recycling solutions to the people and businesses in Connecticut. I can say that it is not only my passion, but the reason we have stayed in business for 50 years. Nothing would make me happier that taking this town forward in the future with residential composting and recycling. I look forward to working with all of you. Going forward, we need to be pro-active as a team rather than re-active...and I truly believe we can take this town to a zero-waste community. Thank you all for your time.

Sincerely,

Andrew Bozzuto
Owner
John's Refuse & Recycling, LLC
Global Environmental Service of CT, LLC