

TRAC MEETING--APRIL 21, 2010

The April meeting of the TRAC Committee was held at the Salisbury Town Hall on April 21, 2010.

Committee Members present: Barbara Bettingole, Patricia Chamberlain, Paul Henrici, Charles Kelly, Bob Palmer, Ed Reagan, Betsy Smith. Also Present: Brian Bartram and First Selectmen Bob Loucks and Curtis Rand.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Kelly at 6:35 pm. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of March 17, 2010. All approved.

Brian presented the Manager's Report. As of May 1, 2010, the state has mandated that #1-#7 plastics should be recycled (food/beverage containers, bleach & detergent containers). Bob Palmer asked what it meant to be a "mandated recyclable" and wondered whether a hauler could take garbage out of town rather than comply. The question was raised as to whether there could be a local ordinance mandating use of the Salisbury/Sharon recycling center for local citizens. It was agreed that this discussion would be revisited at the May meeting.

Patricia then introduced the "Salisbury/Sharon Integrated Solid Waste Management Program Master Plan" as a needs assessment document that could become a planning tool for both TRAC and SSRA.

Bob Palmer then presented the planning document. He began by retracing the history of recycling by very knowledgeable, dedicated Salisbury/Sharon volunteers who began meeting in 1987 to plan for the future. He said that he felt that the success of the endeavor to plan for the future, which led to the purchase of a new site had largely been for 2 reasons--the hiring of an independent engineering firm and the incredible persistence of Curtis Rand. He then led TRAC members through the new planning document, pointing out that there were 4 primary areas of planning in the document that needed attention and 1 other area not in the document. The 4 areas are: 1) The Transfer/ Recycling Center Facility, under which the need to form a building committee, select an engineer, perform a site environmental review, perform end-of-lease obligations (sooner rather than later) and a myriad of other tasks lie ahead. 2) Management Entity Structure Change. Here there's a need to determine budgets, particularly to soon develop a start-up budget And questions need to be answered: How much funding will this new recycling center take? Where will the

money come from? Should the 60-40 split in costs between the 2 towns be census-based or tonnage-based? Will we have a flat rate fee? A Pay-As-You Go or SMART program?

3) Program Performance and Goals. Even though Sharon/ Salisbury has done a very commendable job at recycling (we're now at 35%), the state goal is 58% recycling. What we're going to have to determine objectively is just how much more can be recycled. It will take education, publicity, monitoring, enforcing and penalizing. Pay-as-you-throw and single stream recycling must be evaluated with consideration to the financial and social equity and environmental and economic concerns. 4) Solid Waste Disposal & Recycling Materials Contracts (current CRRA contract ends 2012). Here current vendors' contracts must be identified and evaluated and future vendors must be solicited and also evaluated. Decisions must also be made about the length of terms with vendors and many other details.

Bob mentioned that the fifth, unwritten area of endeavor was the need to look closely at the change in the structure of haulers.

Curtis complimented Bob on his presentation, but said that he felt that because the CRRA contract was so imminent (the preliminary contract needing to be signed in June and the final contract by late fall) that that's where the energy should be put for now rather than in forming building committees etc. After much discussion, it was agreed that Curtis and Bob Loucks should continue to give their attention to the CRRA contract while a committee of the TRAC would begin moving forward with the Plan.

Patricia moved that a committee of TRAC be formed immediately to work with the engineering firm, Anchor, to review the new Plan and to discuss whether or not a determination on the contract should be made. Ed Reagan seconded the motion and all approved.

Bob Loucks said that planning for the future must be flexible because things were changing so fast in the arena of recyclables.

Patricia stressed the immense value in planning for the future to visit other recycling sites and educational programs, as she had recently done.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Betsy Smith

