

Salisbury/Sharon Transfer Station Recycling Advisory Committee (TRAC)
Minutes of TRAC Regular Meeting of Oct 16, 2024, Zoom Meeting 5 PM

Present: Barbara Bettigole (chair), TRAC members, Anne Saunders, Paul Bacsik, Karen Lundeen, Meg Szalewicz, Ed Reagan & TS Manager Brian Bartram

NOTE: Minutes considered DRAFT ONLY until reviewed and acted upon at the next regular meeting

1 - **Meeting called to order** at 5:03 by Chair Barbara Bettigole

2 - **Approval of Agenda** - Moved, seconded, all in favor

**Agenda Note: still need to approve minutes of July 23 special mtg, tabled again since not on Oct posted agenda*

3 - **Approval of minutes from Aug meeting - 08/21/24** - Moved, seconded, all in favor

4 - **Transfer Station Managers Report** - Brian reports on some contamination on motor oil disposal, pricing issue but working on. Barbara adds that swap shop now has a large bulletin board to be installed shortly, more signage and posting ideas discussed, placement and other details to be decided. Paul B mentions example of an item he has to give away or sell that could be posted on new bulletin board, TS cannot be involved in transactions but can publicize messages on board, will explore further if this can be allowed.

5 - **Food Waste Program** - DEEP MMI (Materials Management Innovation) program highlights discussed including grant permits & a brief grant application discussion has started with first selectmen. Brian says still undecided on going ahead, the MMI grant does not apply so much to small towns. Barb will explore further, trucking to McEnroe is one option. Drafting a grant application is ongoing; Brian says more community support needed first and an appropriate plan, our own composting facility Brian thinks would be best. Large FW generators will be obligated by law to divert soon. Brian & Barb will work on next steps. Paul asks if we can see other MMI grant applications, Brian says there is info online but not sure if submitted applications are public. All agreed to try for a grant even if do not get on first try. Meg suggests we look for grant writing expertise. Many local committees including Sharon Women's Club may be helpful in this effort.

Also discussed recent site visit to the Ulster county compost facility, an extended aerated pile project, has grown from a small pilot to much larger and willing to share their info. Plus other local compost projects we will visit. UC project charges to drop off and to take compost so financially self-sustaining. Our residential FW pilot continues to expand but Brian says no budget to go much further at this time, will need to include others that may share costs and resources. Plus reach out on more levels including social media. Other events to do tabling also discussed, we have already done some, info on how to do food separation at events via Clear Stream containers and other gen info was provided. Would like to do more events with sold food, food trucks & snack bars. Barb plans to ask TAHD (Torrington Area Health Dpt) if they have info-resources to share. Karen mentioned a recent event with huge food leftovers, what about providing takeout containers to participants. Good idea to promote. Discussed a bit more on caterers & similar events. Also more on creating forums and meetings to educate the public, mentioned some people to contact in the women's club and others that can help.

6 - **Sustainability Team** - Will be meeting soon, will discuss FW project & grant proposal ideas.

7 - **Salisbury Association Repair Cafe** - Recent successful event, repairing items

8 - **Outreach** - More follow-up with people offering help & info plus events, letters, meetings

9 - **Other Business** - Meeting dates for 2025 published & will have same Zoom link for all

10 - **Public Comment** - Meg mentions the new TOWN 10 YEAR PLAN committee starting up in Sharon and plans to add trash/recycling/FW to the agenda, was not on last one.

11 - **Adjourn Meeting** - Barbara adjourned meeting at 5:59P

Note: Next meeting scheduled for Weds Dec 18 at 5P by Zoom