



Town of Plaistow, NH
Trash & Recycling Advisory Committee (TRAC)
145 Main Street, Plaistow, NH 03865

TRAC MINUTES
September 9, 2021

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM

ROLL CALL: Isabel Gautreau, Chair
Robert Kinkaid, Vice Chair
Richard Anthony, *absent*
Deborah Esparza-St. Louis
Kelley Fox
Maryann Little, *excused*
Mary Anne LoCascio

Also present: Jay DeRoche, *Selectmen*

Agenda Item 2: Review/Approval August 12, and August 31, 2021 Meetings' Minutes

★ *R. Kinkaid moved, second by M. LoCascio, to approve the minutes of the August 12, 2021, meeting as written. There was no discussion on the motion. The vote was 5-0-0 U/A*

★ *K. Fox moved, second by M. LoCascio, to approve the minutes of the August 31, 2021, meeting as written. There was no discussion on the motion. The vote was 3-0-2 (Kinkaid and Esparza-St. Louis abstaining).*

Agenda Item 3: Old Business

a. Waste Zero – Wrap-up from August 31, 2021 presentation

There was a recap of the August 31, 2021, discussion with Waste Zero representative Steve Lissauskas. The program is designed to encourage more reuse and recycling by mandating the purchase of specific bags for household waste disposal. The bags would be sold at local retail locations, which encourages patronage of those businesses, and a portion of the bag purchase price is rebated to the Town. The bags can work with any collection vendor that the Town chooses. The collector monitors compliance with the “pay as you throw” program, and issue warnings to those who are not in compliance.

It was noted that by encouraging more reuse and recycling, the tonnage and tipping fees for the Town’s municipal waste should drop. It was also noted that the bags assist with the collection making the collection times faster.

Concerns were expressed as to how the program would be accepted by the residents, who are already paying for trash collection. It was noted that there would need to be a major educational campaign to help residents understand and accept the program.

There was also discussion noting that it was unclear how the program would work for centrally located dumpsters in places like condominium complexes.

M. LoCascio noted that the spreadsheet presented had both single-family homes and condos and that she would be willing to reach out to Waste Zero again for clarification.

J. DeRoche suggested that if the TRAC were going to recommend the program to the Board of Selectmen (BOS) some verbiage could be included in the new contract. He also noted that the

program could potentially decrease the tonnage for household waste but increase the costs of recycling under the new contract as well, which might be more of an offset than a benefit.

★ I. Gautreau moved, second by K. Fox to recommend to the Board of Selectmen that they meet with Steve Lissauskas and consider implementation of the Waste Zero pay to throw program. There was no discussion on the motion. The vote was 5-0-0 U/A.

K. Fox noted that the most important thing would be how the program was rolled out and recommended that it be separate from the carts.

M. LoCascio added that the company will offer as much or as little as the Town wants to assist with the education and roll out of the program.

There was discussion of ideas for a roll out of the program with education to help counteract the anticipated pushback from the taxpayers.

b. New Date for Discussion with JRM hauling Representative

M. LoCascio offered that she had sent a number of emails to Caitlin, her contact at JRM without a response, but she would keep trying.

Agenda Item 4: Action Items – Updates and Review List of Added Items (if any)

The TRAC reviewed the Action Items spreadsheet. No new items were added at this meeting but there are still some outstanding items.

Agenda Item 5: New Business

There was no new business to be discussed at this meeting.

Agenda Item 6: Recycling and Plastics Beyond Plaistow

R. Anthony was not present at this meeting to speak to this item.

R. Kinkaid offered that he was not optimistic about state legislative assistance for programs.

There was discussion about communities who had passed ordinances to prohibit single-use plastic bags.

There was also a discussion about how to assist residents with the recycling/disposal of their existing trash/recycling containers once the carts are rolled out.

There was no additional business before the committee and the meeting was adjourned at 7:47 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dee Voss
Administrative Assistant