

TRANSFER STATION ACTION COMMITTEE

Minutes

January 19, 2023

8:00 am

Clark Room – Town Hall

[Approved by unanimous vote on Feb 16, 2023.](#)

Members in attendance: Barney Arnold, Tom Bilotta (Chair), Dan Scholten, Dan Cook, Christine Lear, Laura Snowden, Carren Panico, Rob Peary, Christina Christodouloupoulos from the Sustainability Committee.

I. Call to Order @ 8:06

Chair announces the meeting is being recorded.

Open Meeting Law pertaining to meeting participation. While the public is permitted to attend an open meeting, an individual may not address the public body without permission of the chair. An individual may not disrupt a meeting of a public body, and at the request of the chair, all members of the public shall be silent. Generally speaking, the Action Committee will not respond to questions for items not presented on the current agenda.

II. Approval of Minutes

Vote to approve minutes from December 15, 2022 meeting – Rob Peary made a motion. first, Christine Lear seconded the motion. There were no comments. All voted in favor.

III. Updates

Private Trash Pickup in Carlisle

Tom Bilotta reported that a company called WIN Waste Innovations has partnered with Orifice to pick up their residential clients' trash in Carlisle. This is the company that own the facility where we bring our trash so they are now picking up their own trash. Tom is hoping the company will provide us with their client numbers.

Tom also reported that Republic Services now has a page that references Carlisle. He believes this means they are likely to start serving Carlisle.

One of the private haulers reported that they lost 25 clients. It is believed that Orifice/WIN Waste picked up those clients.

Electronics & the Transfer Station

Swap Shed Sub Committee raised whether or not it makes sense to have electronics at the transfer station. Currently residents will bring electronics to the Transfer Station. Often, things like printers, computers and monitors take up a lot of room. If they do not get taken by a resident, computers and printers get thrown into solid waste. Computer Monitors cannot go in solid waste so Transfer Station workers will put them in a container and then at regular intervals, take them to Data Recycling. Currently pay Data Recycling about \$2000 just for the recycling of monitors. If we were to expand our Data Recycling it would much more than it does now.

What is the answer. The Swap Shed Sub Committee thinks the best strategy is to encourage the re-use or recycling of computers and printers elsewhere. For example, Staples and Best Buy will both take electronics. Staples pays \$5 for the first electronic recycled each month. There are also some Facebook groups where people are able to successfully re-home working electronics.

Proposal: Swap Shed will no longer accept large electronics – computers and printers. Instead, Will encourage residents to re-home items through Facebook groups or recycle them via Staples & Best Buy. For those that have absolutely no interest in that, computers and printers can be put in solid waste. Signage will be added to the Transfer Station and Swap Shed in March to roll out this change

Education & Outreach

The Committee stated that the publicity strategy for Feb. is to push information out in the Mosquito, CITW. Tom is working on two new signs for the Transfer Station – one for plastic bags and one for electronics. New signs will roll out in March. Information about who accepts electronics will be included as part of the outreach.

Sticker Fund and Sticker related issues

Tom met with the new Town Administrator, Ryan McLane, who has decided to change how revenue and expenses in the sticker fund will be handled. All sticker funds will now go to line items in the DPW budget – recycling, solid waste, etc. Funds for TSAC work will come from the DPW budget. For proposed items, a PO will be submitted to Ryan and he will allocate it to a line item in the budget. We will still have access to funds for miscellaneous expenses.

New signs for exterior of TS are a separate issue since they are a big expense. Ryan would like to include those signs as part of the capital improvement program for the Transfer Station. The exact timeline for capital improvements will become clearer as the year progresses Sticker purchase process – Ryan thinks the process is working and needs no changes at this point. Minor adjustments can be made if problems arise.

In order to help residents, it was decided we should post information about the sticker purchase process on CITW and in the Mosquito to clarify the process and responsibilities. This will be part of the rotation of educational materials. Action item: Tom will re-write his response about the sticker buying process to help kick off the education campaign.

Community Education/Outreach Focus

Compost – clear that there is no new composting by virtue of the fact that additional bins have not been needed. Other towns offer program where “sign up” get biobag & composter. In order to get the biobag & composter, residents have to sign a paper that you will do this (not binding). This idea was thrown out as a potential offering in Carlisle to jumpstart composting. Funds will be required to do it and were estimated to be about \$2,000.

Barney recommended starting with a pilot program – maybe 25 households who we follow for a specified amount of time and then assess how successful it was. It was also, recommended that we followup with the 5 people who won the composters in our drawing. Are they composting now? Laura agreed to reach out to people who got the bins and document what their experiences have been. People who entered the raffle, they are a natural constituency for the pilot program. Tom will contact

other towns about outreach they did. And get the costs. In terms of quarterbacking – Tom/Laura’s group take that on so it gets done for Earth Day. Dan tangentially involved.

Dan Cook will talk to Black Earth and see if there have been people who have composted illegal items. He will also find out what exactly would be involved in curbside compost pickup for residents of Carlisle.

Christina Christodouloupoulos – Earth Day from Environmental Sustainability Committee

Tasked to cover a really wide scope. Ecological to climate change. Part of the mission is community outreach and information. Earth Day event good place to get lots of info in short period of time. April 22nd. Between 10 – 2pm. No rain date. Various information stations around the center of town with proposed route to walk the stations. The Common would be the ecological side. Solar canopy on energy & transportation. Library – possibly demonstrations & family outreach. Clark Farm – agricultural component. Center Park, Fire Station & Police station will also be locations. Incredibly positive feedback. Still reaching out entities. Trying to do it as paperless as possible. Do not have a big budget this year. They received a Carlisle Cultural Council grant and that it is so far.

Really great time for Turnkey Kit for “how to run an event” ready for Earth Day. Have Earth Day folks follow that protocol. Tom has suggested not sewing discord in messaging (don’t demonize fossil fuels, for example). Stay away from things that divide people. Educate but don’t offend. Be aware of greenwashing. Present facts – pros and cons.

Christina had an idea for TSAC – 3 bins at each trash stations – trash, recycling, composting. Each bin have a fact pertaining to each subject. Different facts at different stations. TSAC creating the education facts. Barney – look at Debra’s re: re-using containers for shopping.

TSAC – Barney made a motion to support Earth Day – Dan Cook formally made the motion: Carlisle TSAC Strongly supports Earth Day April 22nd 2023, sponsored by the Environmental Sustainability Committee & Co-Hosts. Rob Peary seconded. No discussion. Group voted unanimously to support.

IV. Reporting format for Transfer Station Data

Dan Cook has most of data through end of year. Missing tires & composting numbers for December. For next meeting – 2 specific reports in format for us to look at – compact format 2022 vs 2021 for Mosquito. Larger format for web page for website with more detail for folks interested. Sample format for next meeting.

V. Senior Tax Worker program for swap shop

Swap Shed Committee to outline policy for next meeting

VI. Topics for next meeting

Ewaste, large events, dep 3 points we’re going to target

VII. Public Comments

None.

VIII. Adjournment: 9:30

Next meeting: February 16 then Mar 16

Respectfully submitted by C. Panico