

TRANSFER STATION ACTION COMMITTEE
MINUTES

March 2, 2023

8:00 am

Location: In person meeting
Heald Room – Town Hall - 66 Westford Street, Carlisle, MA 01741

Approved by unanimous vote on March 16.

Members in attendance: Tom Bilotta (Chair), Christine Lear (Vice Chair), Dan Scholten, John Petrie(remote), Carren Panico, Laura Snowden, Rob Peary, Dan Cook, Barney Arnold,
Non-Member: Christina Christodouloupoulas (Environmental Sustainability Committee)

- I. Meeting called to order at 8:00 a.m. by Tom Bilotta.
- II. Motion to accept minutes of February 16, 2023 meeting made by C. Panico, second by R. Peary; approved by unanimous vote.
- III. Participation in Earth Day event run by Environmental Sustainability Committee
Christina Christodouloupoulas (Environmental Sustainability Committee) was present to discuss the event.
There will be 5 locations for the event: school parking lot, common and FRS, library lawn, fire station, and center park. Hours 10-2, setup 8:30.
The TSAC will have 2 tables at the school location.
 - A. Home Composting Pilot.
There was discussion about initiating a TSAC Home Composting pilot program. The consensus was to initiate the Home Composting pilot program at the Earth Day event. Residents would sign up to voluntarily participate. They would receive a kitchen compost bucket and some compostable bags. It was decided that we would also make some home composting bins available. L. Snowden will look into the home compost bins available from the state contract vendors, and facilitate ordering the kitchen compost bins, compostable bags, and home compost bins.
A motion was made by R. Peary to recommend spending the estimated \$1750 from available funds for the kitchen compost bins, compostable bags, and home compost bins. Second by C. Lear.
Approved by unanimous vote.
 - B. Home Composting Education.
D. Cook will work on a display of a home composting bin.
 - C. Large Event Guidelines.
J. Petrie will incorporate the recycling activities of the event into the large event guidelines that he is spearheading. There will be recycling containers for paper, and for plastic/metal recyclables, as well paper leaf bags for compost. The recyclables will go to the Transfer Station (compost to be picked up by Black Earth).
J. Petrie will also prepare a “compostable utensils” demonstration.

- D. All TSAC members indicated they could volunteer. The ESC would like volunteers to monitor the recycling/compost stations. TSAC members will be needed for the TSAC tables.
- E. D. Scholten is preparing an Earth Day article for the Mosquito and will mention the ESC event. D. Cook will be writing a Mosquito Forum piece and will also mention the event.

IV. Review of draft report on solid waste/recycling.

D. Cook presented a graph of all the tracked categories comparing the 2021, 2022, and 2023 data for 1 month (January). This tracking of all categories will be maintained on the TSAC page of the town web site. A graph of just total recyclables and total trash for those 3 years was also prepared. The simpler recycle/trash chart will be used for presenting to the public through various means.

V. eWaste.

There was a discussion about handling the various eWaste items at the Transfer Station. The #1 recommendation to residents is to take the items to Staples, since they have a recycling mechanism. Televisions and monitors are not put in the trash. All other items currently go to trash. T. Bilotta noted that John Lavery and others take computers from the TS to deconstruct and reuse the parts. C. Panico, B. Arnold, and C. Lear will talk to Jim Hall at DPW to find out the best way to segregate the eWaste outside of the Swap Shop.

VI. Publicity schedule.

C. Lear updated the proposed publicity schedule and condensed the previous version into a monthly schedule. The schedule was included in the meeting packet, and C. Lear requested that everyone review it and provide feedback by Sunday (3/5/23). C. Lear will work on printing signs for the sandwich boards.

VII. Update on Private Hauler permitting.

T. Bilotta had been in contact with the private haulers and with the town attorney. He was informed by the town attorney that we cannot grandfather the current haulers and cannot limit the number. Allowing private haulers can be “sunsetting”. It was recommended that it is better to “License” the haulers, than to do have a ”Permitting” process. The Board of Health is working on determining whether any such “license” must be issued by them. If not, the BOH would prefer that some other entity do it. Tom noted that another possible path to enforcement is by way of the Transfer Station Regulations which were issued by the Select Board. Tom noted that the plan is still to begin enforcement by July 1, and the initial action for “violations” would be a “warning”.

VIII. Public comments.

None

NEXT MEETING: in two weeks - March 16nd at 8:00 AM

IX Meeting Adjourned : 9:35AM

Respectfully submitted by Robert Peary