

Solid Waste Advisory Committee
Minutes of Meeting
January 17, 2023

Present: Rita Kornblum, Ted Busky, Brian LaVoie (staff), Virginia Walton (staff)

Co-Chairperson Kornblum called the meeting to order at 5:40 pm.

Approval of the December 20, 2022 meeting minutes was deferred until there is a meeting quorum.

Busky reviewed the electronics reuse proposal while the Public Works Operations Manager, Brian LaVoie, attended the meeting. LaVoie agreed with piloting the collection of usable electronic gadgets for a couple of months and evaluating its success at the end of the pilot. LaVoie suggested that key town employees and Busky meet at the Transfer Station after February 6, 2023 to discuss the logistics.

Walton reported that with the projected rise in costs (primarily the trash tipping fee), the 23/24 budget may be facing a large deficit. SWAC may be called upon to evaluate trash fees later this year. The reuse micro grant needs to be tabled for now.

Youth Services can help with the cost of prizes for the 2023 *Refuse It, Reuse It* school poster contest. There was some discussion about prize tickets to the Hartford Science Center. Walton will finalize with Youth Services. The Library Express has offered to display winning posters.

In place of an Earth Extravaganza event, the Community Center is inviting SWAC to have activity tables during its April free Mansfield Days. Kornblum offered to do a stuffed animal clinic and Walton suggested a table about recycling.

Walton stated that the next packaging EPR meeting is with environmental groups who opposed the legislation last year. Packaging EPR will be incorporated into the Governor's omnibus bill, and it is expected that a public hearing will be held sometime between mid-February and mid-March. In the meantime, Walton will reach out to the Town's state legislators.

Future agenda items include a look at the Town's purchasing policy and compost bin sale.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Virginia Walton