Solid Waste Advisory Committee  
Minutes of Meeting  
January 18, 2022

Present: Julie Sherman, Rita Kornblum, Susanna Bekman, Ted Busky, Virginia Walton (staff)

Chairperson Sherman called the meeting to order at 5:36 pm.

The December 21, 2021 minutes were approved on a motion by Kornblum/Bekman.

Kornblum asked if the Committee would be willing to send a thank you letter to Price Chopper for continuing their collection of plastic bags and film. Members concurred, and Kornblum agreed to draft a letter for Walton to review.

Compost Campaign
1. Busky asked to continue collecting fencing material throughout the winter by the reuse area for the compost bin kits. Walton will discuss with colleagues. 2. Sherman offered to attend a spring farmer’s market to distribute kits. There was more interest in the kits at the market than at the library. 3. Walton reported that the compost bin pre-order sale has been arranged in collaboration with the Town of Hampton and Windham for March 14 through April 16. Mansfield residents will pick up their orders on Saturday, April 30, 2022 from 9 to 1. Hampton and Windham have their separate pick up days. 4. There was discussion about having screened compost available for residents at the Transfer Station. Walton will explore what this would entail.

Sustainable CT
1. Members reviewed a draft sustainable purchasing policy that was started before the pandemic. Since town purchasing is decentralized, there was concern that a policy may overwhelm staff. How have other towns with a similar policy approached staff education and implementation? Could one of these towns talk to the Committee? Walton will also discuss with key staff members. 2. Sherman will reach out to Beth Daitch at EO Smith High School about incorporating food waste prevention (Food Too Good To Waste) into her spring curriculum. 3. The Sustainability Committee is hoping to offer a virtual Sustainable CT meeting for town committees. The tentative date is Wednesday, February 9, 2022 at 7 pm.

Electronics Reuse
Busky presented his proposal to salvage usable electronic components. There was discussion about beginning this when the new swap shop opens. Walton said that the building is on schedule to be built this year. To continue the conversation of how this can be implemented, Walton was asked to invite Director of Public Works, John Carrington, to a future meeting.

Walton stated that she had not yet invited State Representative Brian Smith or Senator Mae Flexor to a SWAC meeting. Walton will invite Carrington to a meeting once she know when the legislators can attend.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 15, 2022. The meeting was adjourned at 7:08 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Virginia Walton