

1 **Final Minutes - Solid Waste Committee meeting**

2 **Monday December 11, 3.30 pm, Meeting House**

3 **Members Present**

4 Rich Marcou, (Chair) Kent Ruesswick, (BOS rep), LeeAnn Mackey, Steve Rasche,  
5 Emily Burr

6 **Members absent**

7 Greg Heath

8 **1. Call to Order**

9 Rich Marcou called the meeting to order at 3.30 pm.

10 **2. Previous Minutes of November 20**

11 Kent Ruesswick moved, and Emily Burr seconded, and all present voted in favor of  
12 approving the Minutes from November 20.

13 **3. Roster Changes**

14 Rich noted that the roster needed some updating and cleaning up. Jack and Lisa  
15 Travis should be taken off. **Secretary to ask Kal to take Jack and Lisa Travis off**  
16 the online webpage. Carol Flavin-Veenstra has already been removed following  
17 her email letter of resignation. Kent had spoken to Kim but she is not in a position  
18 to return at this point so she should also be removed from the email list.

19 In the context of this discussion, Emily Burr said she will stay on committee if the  
20 members wanted but she no longer wanted to run the Treasure House. It won't  
21 run itself. She has a lot of data about folks who have volunteered. Sometimes  
22 they don't show up or get substitutes. **Steve Rasche volunteered to take on the**  
23 **coordination of the Treasure House**, and members expressed appreciation for his  
24 offer.

25 **4. Town Report for Town Meeting from the Solid Waste Committee**

26 The secretary had learned that the deadline was to be January 31, 2024. **Rich**  
27 **agreed to start a draft for the town report and Emily will write a piece for the**  
28 **Treasure House over this year.** There has been a lot of work going on and as Kent  
29 noted, money has been made recently from some recycled metals.

30 Steve said to include shout out for the staff. Rich will go through minutes to pull  
31 out highlights from the past year.

## 32 **5. Questions for the Transfer Station staff**

33 Rich had asked members to look through a list of questions that the committee  
34 had produced.

35 Members discussed issues to do with how far questions might be perceived as  
36 'leading' versus open ended, for example over the issue of the health concerns  
37 from the idling truck. It was felt that open-ended questions, and questions  
38 phrased to ask about what would be more helpful to them as workers, would be  
39 more fruitful in obtaining responses from all the staff at the Transfer Station.  
40 There could be different responses from different staff.

41 The issue of fee collection and consistency was agreed to be the manager's  
42 responsibility. This led to members discussing ways to take money out of the  
43 Transfer Station operation altogether. One suggestion Rich had was to use Punch  
44 Cards, like those he had seen in use at Epping. Residents buy them in advance  
45 from outlets in town and redeem them at the Transfer Station, in increments of  
46 \$5. So, no cash or card operation is needed at the dump itself. Members were  
47 enthusiastic about this idea, but it was tabled for a future discussion, in that more  
48 information is needed to move ahead with such a proposal and more preparation  
49 in terms of where such cards could be sold to residents in Canterbury.

50 It was agreed to **amend question 8a, and keep 8b, which has to do with cubic  
51 feet and weight and Rich wanted to have that conversation with David Bowles.**

52 **For question 9, it was agreed to eliminate 9a and keep 9 b and 9c.**

53 Discussion regarding question #10 raised the issue of green bags and the fact that  
54 some residents throw stuff out without using green bags and staff do not stop  
55 them. There was discussion about the purple bags used in and sold around  
56 Concord.

57 **For question 10c it was agreed to add Punch Card to the list of alternatives.**

58 Members discussed how to go about asking the questions of the Transfer Station  
59 staff one the list was compiled and edited. **There was general agreement that  
60 David should come first, as manager, and see the questions in advance so he**

61 could prepare how to answer. He could be paid for that hour of attending and it  
62 was hoped to do that on January 8, 2024. It was felt that all staff there should  
63 participate. The secretary offered to interview the other members of staff at the  
64 Transfer Station and write their answers to the questions. Hopefully this could  
65 happen if David agreed, and maybe take place the day after David attends the  
66 committee – so on Tuesday January 9, when the TS opens at noon.

67 So Rich agreed to edit the list of questions and also speak to Dave about  
68 attending on Monday January 8, and allowing his staff to participate in work  
69 time, on Tuesday January 9.

#### 70 **5. Other Business**

71 Kent shared that he had seen an advertisement for composting machines that go  
72 on kitchen counter tops costing \$300. There was concern expressed by others  
73 that these use a lot of energy to compost food in record time.

#### 74 **6. Adjournment**

75 Rich requested a motion to adjourn. LeeAnn seconded and all voted in favor. It  
76 was just after 4.30 pm.

77 **Next meeting will be on Monday January 8, 3.30 pm IN THE LIBRARY as the**  
78 **Meeting House is booked for the Select Board.**

#### 79 **Action items**

- 80 • **Secretary to get roster cleaned up with Kal in town office**
- 81 • **Rich to start draft for Town Meeting town report**
- 82 • **Emily to draft short piece about Treasure House this year**
- 83 • **Emily to prepare to hand over Treasure House data to Steve to take over**
- 84 • **Rich to edit questions for TS staff**
- 85 • **Rich to ask Dave about attending Jan 8 and staff being interviewed Jan 9**  
86 **2024**

87 Respectfully submitted,

88 Lois Scribner, secretary.

89

90

91

92

93

94

95

96

97

98

99

100

101

102

103

104

105

106

107

108

109

110

111