

Connecticut Recyclers Coalition (CRC) Board of Directors Meeting Minutes 2/21/18

Board Members Present: John Pizzimenti, Dawn Pettinelli, Ray Collins, Julie Cammarata, Virginia Walton, Janice Erle-Meyer, Dan McGowan, Tom Gaffey, C.J. May

Phone In: Lori Vitagliano, Pam Roach, Rich Ireland Jr., Chuck Rangle

Guest Presenter: Dean Barkham (Green Heat Technologies),

Call to Order: The meeting called to order at 9:03 am. Dan presiding.

Approval of January 21, 2018 minutes:

Ginny motion to accept, Janice seconded. Approved.

Conference Update:

- Great success. Thank you to Ray & Julie & conference board subcommittee!
- The conference generated about \$20,000 in income plus new members.
- Suggestion that we should switch date to fall, like November because less chance of bad weather. Need to decide soon.
- Ginny wondered if there could be a non-profit price break? Maybe non-profit personnel could serve on a panel?
- Noted poor CT DEEP personnel turnout at conference. They were notified that they could come at no cost if came with Commissioner. Discussion about CRC covering their costs but not favored by board as our budget is very tight. Would be great if all supported our efforts like Sherill Baldwin.
- Surprised at number of towns not CRC members – CJ suggested that we as board members should reach out to individual towns to promote our organizations. It was noted that not all towns have recycling coordinators.

Breakfast Meetings:

- Registration for February 22 meeting on Municipal Recycling Ordinances Updates from 8:30 to 10:30 going well -reaching out to municipalities – need to continue to do so.
- Speakers include Peter Brunelli of the Bureau of Materials Management & Compliance Assurance at CT DEEP and Chris Nelson, Supervising Environmental Analyst at CT DEEP
- Looking for one more speaker.

Treasurer's Report:

- C.J. May submitted detailed report.
- Ending balance as of 2/16/18 is \$45,769
- Motion by Tom to approve, John seconded, all approved
- Budget: Treasury fairly robust at this time so comment was made that we should think boldly

Budget Subcommittee (Dan, CJ & Janice):

- Expenses were on target (\$12,000) for conference.
- Hoping to collect about \$1400 - \$1500 in revenue from each breakfast and will try to offer about 3 with each costing about \$3000 to \$4000.
- Looks like we made profit this year!

Government Affairs (Dan, Tom, Chuck, Lori, Rich):

- Julie – has a list of bills so far that have come out with some nexus to recycling. Contact her with concerns.
- Bottle bill – no appetite for repeal bill, some willingness to tackle some points that might help redemption centers from going out of business. Community leadership needs some consensus. 2 tracks – triage decision and larger issue of where are we going – how to modernize our recycling system in CT – maybe look to other states, maybe hybrid but need to start tackling longer term solution.
- This issue touches everyone and there was discussion about it at conference.
- CRC had position statement and sent in a letter 3 years ago against repeal that had a number of principles that the board agreed on. We should review.
- Main thing about bottle bill (from conference) – it needs an overhaul. This board could be the centerpiece to bring all those people in. The legislators would really like a solution – this would be a great opportunity for CRC. So we need to put pen to paper – what would we ask of board, Julie, etc. Maybe some grant \$ - maybe a closed loop fund – to construct updates to bottle bill - need some expertise (research)
- Next session – new administration, new legislators – good opportunity for us. Give them something palatable by our group. Need by end of this year. Need also to get business people in room – stakeholders equal at the table.

- This Friday first meeting of Environmental Committee (2-23-18). Not bottle bill this week but when comes up we should have statement to present to committee and we will form this group and plan to come up with a tentative solution. This week tires – has been a study in the past.

Membership Subcommittee (Jen, Pam, Brian & Tom):

- 9 new members including a couple of towns.
- Almost all old members renewed
- 78 members about now

Bylaws (Ginny & Kim):

- Sent out proposed revisions to bylaws.
- Discussion about number of board of directors – should we have flexibility or just have 13? It was noted we can always change bylaw at later time if necessary.
- Annual budget timeframe - keep at 4 months prior to new fiscal year.
- Need wording about allowing a non face to face meeting (i.e. phone or email) in some situations to allow board action. John will send wording from his agency.
- Comments accepted and Ginny will update bylaws and resend.

NO FRILLS TOURS:

- Dawn says welcome to join Friends/Laurelbrook March 31 (10-2). Email her at dawn.pettinelli@uconn.edu if interested in attending.
- Another possibility in Naugatuck is Envipco – Reverse Vending Machines – no date set

WRAP (Dan):

- Dan thinks Resource Recycling Magazine has something – update (DEEP link) about plastic bags stating that many towns & retailers will take back bags. (C.J. says that most of these would go into TREX lumber.

COMPOST TRAINING FOR SMALL SYSTEM OPERATORS (Ginny, Dawn & Julie):

- Geared towards municipalities that want to take in food wastes as well as schools and other small systems. Potential date: March 7, 2018 from 9-1:30. Held at Mansfield Town Hall, 4 South Eagleville Rd., Mansfield, CT as there are composting sites at the Middle School that could be visited after lunch.
- Presenters are Ginny, Dawn, Athena Lee Bradley from NERC & Gabrielle Frigon from CT DEEP
- Lunch served. \$20 registration fee. Seeking sponsors – Blue Earth, Novamont,

- 21 registrants so far
- Keep advertising

Guest Presenter: Dean Barkham from Green Heat Technologies – manufacturer of solid fuels like coal or pellets.

- China will impact all of us & US may have to capture 100 % of recycled materials
- One way creates a quasi-biomass product with an adjustable BTU rate that can be made from
- construction debris, plastics, fibers etc.
- Made into bricks or pellets and can burn it with coal or by itself – reduces amount of ash from coal by 40%.
- Being used in other parts of world (Puerto Rico, Jamaica) but wants to bring it here to the states. Maybe Bridgeport? Focusing on coal consumers to use as alternative.
- Different from waste to energy? Making energy from recyclables – can offset BTU's. Want to deal with MRFs and coal energy company. Can reduce MRF tipping fees. (9 MRFs in CT) Non-regulated as not using water.

Next meeting date: 9 am on Wednesday, March 21, 2018, in MIRA's Conference Room, 211 Murphy Road, Hartford.

Proposed 2018 Board Meeting Schedule with modifications made during today's meeting. Decided membership annual meeting to be held Sept 12, 2018 – morning lunch meeting with afternoon social activity (Membership and conference committee can find menu and come up with plan)

2/21/2018
 3/21/2018
 4/18/2018
 5/16/2018
 6/20/2018
 7/18/2018
 8/15/2018
 9/12/2018 – Annual Meeting – Stony Brook Brewery in Naugatuck
 10/17/2018
 11/14/2018
 12/19/2018

Motion to approve Board Meeting schedule as amended – John motioned, Janice second, passed
 Adjourn 10: 54

Respectfully submitted,
Dawn Pettinelli, Secretary CRC