

**Foster Conservation Commission  
Workshop Minutes  
March 12, 2007  
Old Town House – 6:30 PM**

**Call to Order**

Mike Wood called the meeting to order at 6:32PM.

**Roll Call**

Attendees: Mike Wood, Judy Helfgott, Don Manley, George Christie, Marcia Bowden  
Ruth Rogers, Ed Creighton, and Scott Ulrikson were absent.

Guests: Mike Mesoella, John Rambone

**Correspondence**

Mike Wood said the application for the \$200 grant for Earth Day clean-up from DEM had been sent in.

**Approval of Minutes**

Don Manley moved to accept the February 19, 2007, minutes, with spelling corrections. The motion passed unanimously.

**New Business**

Guests included John Rambone of Rambone Disposal Services, Inc. and Mike Mesoella of the Rhode Island Resource Recovery Center. The Commission had invited them to present ideas to help the Town to increase recycling tonnage.

Don Manley explained the Commission's decision to research alternate methods of trash collection in order to increase recycling compliance, as well as to reduce the amount of municipal waste. The Commission will prepare a report of its findings and present it to the Town Council for implementation.

The following suggestions were discussed:

- Mr. Rambone's crews could take a survey of non-compliant households and report to DPW director
- Mr. Rambone would place a 30 yard roll off at DPW to collect yard waste. The weight wouldn't affect the cap. It could be put up on a trial basis.
- Do not collect any construction debris.
- Do not collect large cardboard boxes
- Hire a part-time recycling coordinator
- Pay as you throw program
- No bin, no barrel program
- Set up a transfer station
- Set up ticket program for discarded furniture/rugs
- Strengthen recycling ordinances with enforcement
- Add recycling costs to tax bill with accompanying brochure
- Co-ordinate recycling education with school and Old Home Days
- Notify residents about Free Market Exchange Program

The following decisions were made:

- Mike Wood asked Mr. Rambone to conduct a month-long survey of non-compliant households and report to DPW director.
- Mike Wood will call Paul Caccia (at Ext. 115) to book MaxMan for Old Home Days
- At next meeting, someone will be designated to contact the schools.
- The Commission will work with Treasurer Randy Rossi to include recycling costs and brochure in the tax bill.
- Brochures detailing recycling items will be passed out at Old Home Days
- Commission will apply for RIRRC grant. \$10,000 - \$20,000 is available to fund a municipal grant for recycling initiatives.

### **Old Business**

Old Business was moved to March 19, 2007 meeting

### **Future Agenda Items**

Marcia Bowden's planning board report, and implementation.

Mike Wood will appoint planning board liaison.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 8:30PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia Bowden