

**PLAINVILLE RECYCLING AND SOLID WASTE COMMISSION
PLAINVILLE, CONNECTICUT**

MINUTES

May 11, 2023

REGULAR MEETING AT 7:00 P.M.

**Room 200
Municipal Center**

PRESENT: Rich Ireland, Rebecca Ireland, George Fensick, Kathy Cole

STAFF PRESENT: None

ABSENT: None

VISITORS: Krista Ostuno, President, HW Green Company Inc.

I. ROLL CALL

There was a quorum.

II. GUEST SPEAKERS

Ms. Ostuno was present to talk about her metal recycling company located in Plainville, H.W. Green. She explained what her company does and what they recycle. She also explained the process with recycling metals.

Ms. Ostuno has been working with the Elementary schools in Plainville, Grades 1 to 3 with a special program. She donates 1 book per classroom, the book is about recycling. It is called "The Girl Who Recycled 1 Million Cans" by Shaziya Jaffer. She also provides a "Metal Kit". The kit shows metal items that people would not normally think of recycling. It has been very successful in the Elementary Schools.

She would like to also do a STEM program for the Middle School Students. She contacted the principal there and is waiting for a response.

Ms. Ostuno also mentioned the possibility of working with High School students on a Recycling Program. Jenn Dahlstrom provided the email address for Mr. John Czerwinski, Science Teacher at Plainville High School. He also is the teacher for Environmental Science. Ms. Ostuno will reach out to him.

Ms. Ostuno shared the hours of operation at HW Green. They are open Monday to Friday 7:00 am – 5:00 pm and Saturdays 7:30 am to 1:30 pm.

Ms., Ostuno said that residents can bring down metal scraps to be recycled. They accept any metal including old appliances and cars.

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Rebecca Ireland suggested that Ms. Ostuno can donate a book and Metal Kit to the Children's Department at the Library. Ms. Ostuno to contact the Library Director.

George Fensick also mentioned that there is a Plainville newspaper, "The Hometown Connection". Ms. Ostuno can advertise her business in the paper. She thanked him for the suggestion.

III. AUDIENCE TO VISITORS

None

IV. MINUTES

A motion was made to accept the April 13, 2023 minutes as written by:

K. Cole

Seconded by: G. Fensick

All in Favor 4 to 0

Motion Passes

Minutes Approved

V. BILLS AND COMMUNICATIONS

A. Town Council Liaison – Deb Tompkins was not present.

B. Other –

A motion was made to elect Richard Ireland Chairman of the Recycling and Solid Waste Commission for a 2 year term by: George Fensick

Seconded by: Kathy Cole

All in Favor 3 to 1

Richard Ireland abstains

Motion Passes

A motion was made to elect George Fensick Vice Chairman of the Recycling and Solid Waste Commission for a 2 year term by: Kathy Cole

Seconded by: Rebecca Ireland

All in Favor 3 to 1

George Fensick abstains

Motion Passes

A motion was made to elect Rebecca Ireland Secretary of the Recycling and Solid Waste Commission for a 2 year term by: George Fensick

Seconded by: Kathy Cole

All in Favor 3 to 1

Rebecca Ireland abstains

Motion Passes

VI. OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Cirioli, Assistant Town Manager is checking into the items below.
Rich to invite him to the next meeting to provide updates.

1. **Metal Recycling Charge** - George Fensick asked about the charge that is being collected at the Transfer Station when residents drop off the metal to be recycled. Mr. Cirioli to check into it and report back at a future meeting.
2. **Simple Recycling** – this program stopped during the pandemic, but will be restarting in Plainville. The commissioners asked questions. Mr. Cirioli to follow up and find out what “gently used” means and get some clarification. Mr. Cirioli to report at a future meeting.
3. **Recycle Coach** – Mr. Cirioli explained that the town opted to upgrade the current recycle coach program. He went over specifics and will report to the commission when it goes “live”.
4. **Battery Recycling** – the commission asked if it is possible to start battery recycling. Mr. Cirioli will talk to the Town Manager, Fire Chief and Fire Marshall for more details, including possible location for a collection box.
5. **Fluorescent bulb recycling** – George Fensick asked if it is possible to start a recycling program for fluorescent light bulbs. Mr. Cirioli to talk to town staff and report findings at a future meeting.
6. **Nip Bottle Recycling** – Kathy Cole asked about “Nip Bottle Recycling”. Mr. Cirioli to look into it and report at an upcoming meeting.
7. **Hazardous Waste Collection** – George Fensick reported that there are long lines when residents wait to recycle hazardous items at local collection sites. Is it possible to do one for Plainville? To reduce the amount of time residents need to wait in line? Mr. Cirioli to look into it and report findings at an upcoming meeting.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

- A. **Food Scrap Recycling** – George talked about a program he saw starting in Connecticut. To be discussed further during the upcoming meeting with Town Staff to see if it can be done in Plainville. **Ongoing**
- B. **Hazardous Waste Collection** – Rich reminded the commission that the collection is May 19th in Berlin.
- C. **Recycling Guide** – Rebecca shared the Recycle Guide and Composting Guide with the commission.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by: R. Ireland to adjourn the meeting at 8:11 pm.

Seconded by: K. Cole

All in Favor 4 to 0

Meeting adjourned at 8:11 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer Dahlstrom

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Recording Secretary