

**FIWMD**  
**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 25, 2018 @ 5:00 PM**  
**AT FI COMMUNITY CENTER**  
**MINUTES**

*Gregory Thibodeau, Chair*

*Tim Patterson, Treasurer*

*Sarah Malinowski, Secretary*

*Bruce Hubert*

*Meredith Doyen*

Sarah Malinowski called the meeting to order at 5:00. Greg Thibodeau was absent.

Additions to the Agenda

New sign in book, updates on commissioner projects, May monthly meeting date, when to hold executive sessions, correspondence to FI Club

Manager Report

OPERATIONS REPORT APRIL 2018

COMPOST PILES –

Finally screened the last of the “Cypherd” pile and now starting to screen the more refined piles. Billy Bloethe has been collecting the coffee grounds from the store and we are adding them to the wood chips in the pit. He will also be collecting from the News Café when it opens.

HAULS - For the month of April, there have been 8 hauls. The following is a breakdown of hauls per type:

- Bottles and Cans – 1
- MSW – 1
- Paper – 1
- Bulky - 2
- Metal – 1
- Wood – 1
- Cardboard – 1

LANDFILL –

Nothing to report.

WILDERNESS ROAD –

Will be patching the potholes in the coming weeks.

BRUSH GRINDER –

The discharge belt has been repaired. I am pricing new teeth for the drum.

GLASS GRINDER –

Working better.

STATIONS –

Winter damage has been cleaned up.

The Cardboard Dumpster is having issues. We ordered a new solenoid from Sanitation Equipment. Also, there seems to be a faulty pressure reading on the MSW position 1 (next to the building), we will work with Sanitation Equipment to get that adjusted.

We have been seeding the areas cleaned up over the winter. Hopefully this will eliminate the knotweed and make it easier to control what does grow up.

EQUIPMENT –

With the arrive of warmer weather, we will be getting the mowing equipment out of storage.

TRAINING/PERSONNEL –

All employees received their “Universal” certification in Freon removal. I am now pricing out equipment. Once we decide on the best one for our needs, we will receive training from the manufacturer.

Darcy’s last day was April 24<sup>th</sup>. She was a great asset to the District and she’ll be missed. Brandy Walker has been hired to replace her and seems very willing to work at both stations.

OTHER –

On Tuesday, May 8<sup>th</sup>, Annette and myself will be visiting the towns of Waterford, Groton, Stonington and Westerly to see their Transfer Stations and to compare their operations. Each town has a different way of handling fees and what they take in terms of “waste”.

Alan described the importance of FIWMD employees performing Freon removal from appliances. Now FIWMD will not have the nuisance of storing the appliances containing Freon. When the appliances are Freon-free they can be crushed and disposed of in dumpsters.

Previously the request to soil testing produced at the compost station was denied. The discussion resumed this evening. The cost is \$300 per pile. If the cost is the issue, only one pile could be tested. The discussion focused around whether or not the public purchasing the product would be concerned about the quality of the product. The discussion will continue again at the next monthly meeting.

#### Public Comments

There were two members of the public from The FI Club in attendance. They are anxious to work with FIWMD with respect to reducing waste on our island. They are also interested in developing a composting system at their club. They were commended for providing water bottle filling stations at their club.

Bob Brooks provided a brochure of respirators that he thinks would work well for employees while operating the glass crusher.

#### Minutes

**Mere Doyen motioned to accept the minutes of March 29, 2018 with corrections, Tim Patterson seconded; the motion carried.**

#### Finances

**Mere Doyen motioned to transfer \$60,000 to the operating account, Tim Patterson seconded; the motion carried.**

**Mere Doyen motioned to accept the financial reports, Bruce Hubert seconded; the motion carried.**

#### Correspondence

R & C submitted their yearly proposal to perform testing at the landfill. **Bruce Hubert motioned to accept the proposal from R & C for \$2,100, Mere Doyen seconded; the motion carried.**

The commission agreed to send a letter to the FI Club commending them on providing water bottle filling stations for employees and club members. Also, requesting they consider other initiatives to help reduce the amount of waste they generate. Sarah provided a copy of the letter and it is attached.

#### Unfinished Business

Beth presented a draft for new policies for FIWMD's absentee application election process. There were questions and she will follow up for the next meeting.

#### New Business

Sarah gave a synopsis about a well-attended meeting at the FI School about "Wind Generation". It seems that an area at FIWMD's compost station has the highest available point to place said wind generator. Technical concerns with the FI Utility Co. are uncertain. Greg will research the possibility of leasing the area and related legalities.

Sarah will send a thank you note the school for providing the wind generation meeting and their willingness to include FIWMD in their discussions.

There was discussion about perhaps moving executive sessions to the start of the monthly meetings. The board will continue the discussion at their next monthly meeting.

A new meeting sign-in book was presented which now includes a calendar, a short version of Robert's Rules of Order, Open Meeting Laws and Employee handbook. These items will help with answering questions that come about during the meetings with regard to the same.

Sarah proposed starting an "adopt-a-road" program for the island to be further discussed at the next monthly meeting.

Alan is prepared to present the PPT he created "Waste Management" on May 2 at the community center and again on May 26 at the Island Community meeting.

Sarah's research with regard to reducing plastic bottles on the island is ongoing. She has spoken to several island entities searching for involvement with the same endeavor and she's received much interest. One caveat to significantly reducing the use of plastic bottles seems to be that much of the island population is not happy with the taste of the water provided from the FI Water Co. The FI Water Co. say water testing results are posted on their website and indicate that the water is safe.

Sarah also informed the group that her work is ongoing with the Ferguson Museum with consideration to creating a walking path on a section of the compost station leading to the beach shore.

It was reported that this summer the FI Movie Theater might have one or more "waste theme" productions for the public to enjoy and educate.

Employee #40 pay rate is \$14.25.

The public meeting was adjourned at 6:20 to an executive session to discuss employee matters.

The executive session ended to resume the public meeting.

It was decided that Alan look for a consultant to perform team building exercises with FIWMD employees.

The board decided to pay for Goose Island parking for employee #25 until the employee's next evaluation.

It was agreed that items like parking should be spelled out in a job description.

It was noted that the next monthly meeting date is changed to Thursday, May 24, 2018 at 5:00.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:50.

Beth A. Stern

March 8, 2018

Dear Peter, Ned, Chip, Bob, George and Elizabeth,

As you know, the Fishers Island Waste Management District (FIWMD) is tasked with reducing the environmental cost of producing, handling and transporting waste from Fishers Island. Given this mission, our goal is to set high standards for minimizing environmental impacts while controlling expenses. We want to be an example of sustainable waste management and envision a self sufficient Island.

Our current initiatives include installing a modern compost facility, a glass-crushing machine, on-island recycling projects and educational programs that will reduce waste production, compost, and reduce waste transportation costs. (Environmental and economical). We would like to partner with Island Stakeholders to maximize our results.

Would the Club explore composting opportunities at your end of the Island? We have just returned from the NYS Organics Summit and spoke with composters who are eager to show Fishers Island Stakeholders how to compost to benefit each group. For example compost recipes for Golf Courses, using food and yard waste produced at the Club.

We admire the filtered refillable water bottle stations in the club's new buildings. We are grateful for the environment-focused message this sends to your membership. Perhaps this initiative can be rolled out to other island locations and lead to an island-wide curb on the use of single use plastic water bottles. Would the club partner with us on this enterprise?

Lastly, but not least, would the Club consider replacing plastic cups, straws and all single use plastic items, with attractive compostable alternatives?

We sincerely hope that the FICC will consider these ideas and take a leadership role in their implementation. These initiatives would reduce the amount of waste the Club generates, which would reduce the island's total waste burden considerably. (Last season, the Club generated approximately half the municipal solid waste (MSW) transported off Island). We believe that you can set a fine example for both your membership as well as the larger island community.

We look forward to hearing from you and to working with you.

Sincerely,  
Sarah Malinowski