

**FIWMD
SEPTEMBER 26, 2018 @ 5:00 PM
AT FI COMMUNITY CENTER
MINUTES**

*Gregory Thibodeau, Chair
John Patterson, Treasurer
Sarah Malinowski, Secretary
Meredith Doyen
Bruce Hubert*

Greg Thibodeau call the meeting to order at 5:00 pm., all commissioners were present.

OPERATIONS REPORT SEPTEMBER 2018

COMPOST PILES –The piles have all been turned. We will be emptying the pit and creating a new pile. This will free the pit up for the winter months. We have received the analysis of our compost back from Cornell. We will post the results to our website and have copies available at the Compost Station once it is made easier to read.

HAULS - For the month of September there have been 10 hauls. There will be two more scheduled for the rest of the month. The following is a breakdown of hauls per type:

- Bottles and Cans – 3
- MSW – 3
- Paper – 1
- Bulky - 1
- Metal – 0
- Wood – 1
- Cardboard – 1

LANDFILL –

We will be mowing next week for the last time this year.

WILDERNESS ROAD –

The side of the road will be mowed when we do the landfill. We will also be doing trimming to push back the sides.

BRUSH GRINDER –

The grinder had to have some welding done on the feeder drum; one of the metal plates had cracked and been pushed out of alignment.

GLASS GRINDER –

To date, we have processed 147.5 cubic yards of glass; weighing about 36.9 tons. This equates to about 5 B/C dumpsters being sent out.

STATIONS –

Following recommendations from Cornell Institute, we will be doing a test with the knotweed to see if it can be composted. We will grind the knotweed we have piled and mix it with wood mulch, then layer it with a thick layer of wood mulch. We will monitor it through the winter, and in the spring send a sample to Cornell for them to test to see if any knotweed remains.

EQUIPMENT –

A Freon recovery machine has been purchased along with the necessary equipment. We are currently setting it up in the work shop and have been watching videos on the use of it. We will be processing the appliances we have stored in the next couple of weeks.

TRAINING/PERSONNEL –

Annette, Danielle and Brandy will be at the Stonington Waste Facility on Thursday, Sept. 27th for a day of shadowing the crew there. This will give them some knowledge of using a scale system for weighing waste coming in and see how single stream recycling works.

OTHER –

Talked with Kate McArdle and Missy Hall of the New York State Pollution Prevention Institute (P2I) on Tuesday, Sept. 25th. It was just a general discussion on what we were looking for from them, and what they can provide to us. I sent them both the rough Local Waste Management Plan and the information on the facility up-grade so that they better understand what is going on. Once they review both, they will contact us and make suggestion as where we should start and what grants might work for us. They again mentioned the Climate Smart Community program and I am beginning to review that information to see how we can make it work for us.

Sarah asked if Alan have he had been able to connect Meghan Raymond with James Wade of DEC concerning mowing of the landfill to promote warm season grasses which form a natural meadow over cool season grasses which encourage lawns. Alan said it is on his list of to-dos.

Public Comments Willard Soper inquired who the district has or will hire to research available grants and write the grants. The reply was that FIWMD will hire two of the consultants they currently employ for writing the grants. The consultants and FIWMD's office staff are currently researching grant opportunities such as New York State Pollution Prevention Institute (P2I). Malinowski requested a breakdown of which consultant would be writing which grant applications and a list of the granting agencies to which we are anticipating sending grant applications. Sarah stated that Beth has been a successful grant writer for the District in the past.

Bob Evans asked what the status was with clearing out the bunkers before upgrades begin. It was explained that clearing out of the bunkers is not the issue; the USACOE is in the process of making plans to deal with the possibility of munitions on the property.

With corrections, the minutes of July 25, August 22 & September 6, 2018 were motioned for approval by Bruce Hubert, seconded by Mere Doyen; the motion carried.

The financial reports were reviewed. **Tim Patterson motioned to transfer eighty thousand dollars from Morgan Stanley to the operating account and to accept the financial reports, Mere Doyen seconded the motion; the motion carried.**

Unfinished business was discussed as follows:

Sarah: we have all been under a lot of stress as commissioners lately. Could we hire a mediator or consultant to facilitate and review our board assessments, evaluations and how commissioners interact with one another? Alan will give Sarah contact information of Operations Inc., a firm the District used in the past.

The commissioners scheduled a meeting to review edits to the Handbook on October 3 at 5:00.

The commission was reminded to get back to Beth about attendance to the NYSAR3 convention by October 5.

New Business

Sarah asked if we can ask our architect neighbors to work with our engineers to ensure we install the best possible looking fence. Greg said once we have the plantings installed you won't even see the fence. Sarah: Can we ask our neighbors to consult with our engineers about both the fencing and the plantings. Greg agreed to speak with neighbors, the Williams. Greg also said he would contact our consultants to see how this could be coordinated.

Mere said it would be a good idea to improve our relationship with our neighbors.

The contract with Willimantic Waste was reviewed and motioned for approval by Tim Patterson, seconded by Mere Doyen; the motion carried.

Beth is still waiting for a contract with SCRRRA (Southeast CT Regional Resource Recovery Authority).

FIWMD was on the Town Planning Board on September 24. FIWMD is waiting for a response from the Planning Board regarding the Consolidation Facilities Plan.

Per NY State FIWMD employees are required to take part in a Sexual Harassment class or at the very least have a plan in place.

Alan proposed that the employees take part in a webinar at the cost of \$1,200. Sarah wonders if it would be more effective to have the class with a physical person instead of a webinar. It would be costlier to have a person come to the island for the class. She reminded the commissioners that we have a history of sexual harassment and a recent complaint of sexism from an employee. Alan assured Sarah that the webinar would be adequate.

Sarah said that she thought that the LSWMP (Local Solid Waste Management Plan) should have been available to the commission before it went public. Greg said the plan was available to the commission before it went public.

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 pm.