

FIWMD Monthly Meeting
May 22, 2019 @ 4:30
Minutes

Commissioners Present: Tim Patterson, Chair; Bruce Hubert, Vice Chair; Robert Evans, Treasurer; Sarah Malinowski, Secretary; David Burnham, Liaison. Also present: Alan Thibodeau, Operations Manager.

Manager's Update:

Alan made reporting changes so there would be compatibles from year-to-year. The team will make some physical changes to the lower pad area at the Transfer Station to accommodate more customers at one time. Bruce wondered about widening the driveway to the compost station so customers could exit and enter at the same time. New tires are needed on the backhoe @ \$1,800. Sarah Freeman's hours will increase to 20/week for the summer months. Alan researched cement barriers, plastic jersey barriers and visited the Stonington Transfer Station and concluded that we would be best served for safety and financially, by installing a chain link fence.

Based upon Alan's recommendation, Bruce motioned to install a 4 foot tall chain link fence around the three active pits. David seconded. There was discussion. Motioned carried.

David will send Alan a picture of a forkable crib for temporary storage of bulky items. The pipes in the chain link fence will be filled with cement to avoid deterioration of the bottoms of the posts due to moisture. The fence will be installed by team members.

The Eco-Products (compostable dinnerware) event Alan organized at the Community Center was well attended. Dave Cugini, General Manager of the FI Club attended and Alan put him in touch with Pollution Prevention Institute (P2I) for ideas on how the Club can reduce their waste. After further discussion of the Club's well intentioned separating system in their kitchens, the commingling that happens in their dumpsters, and the safety fence we will be installing at the transfer station the Commissioners asked Alan to set up a tour of the Club's waste management practices to further our goals of good community relationships and reducing waste where it is generated.

The full manager's report is attached.

The Minutes of the April 24, 2019 minutes were approved with corrections.

Treasurer, Bob Evans reported that the check details are in order. The usual bank transfer was not needed because our savings and checking accounts are at the same Financial Institution. Based on Bob's recommendation, **Bruce motioned to pay the monthly bills (\$21,435.40), David seconded. Motion carried.**

Unfinished Business:

Weather Policy was tabled to the next Workshop. Sarah is to resend DRAFT weather policy.

LSWMP was submitted May 10th. The first step of DEC approval should be completed by June 10, Sarah will follow up with Kim via email prior to June 12th workshop.

TS&CS registration has been updated (the composting system based on combining the stations has been removed) and resubmitted. Alan will send the registration to Patrick B. Fife, of Twomey, Latham, Shea, Kelley, Dubin & Quartarare, Attorney of the Community Center.

Election process. Sarah will report for the June 12th meeting.

Ad Hoc Committee: Bruce will meet with them this weekend and will report at our June 12 workshop.

New Business:

Composting Alternatives

There was a lengthy discussion about the environmental consequences regarding the use of wood vs fossil fuel oil for home heat production. The pros and cons of preparing wood for wood stove consumption vs composting. Bob Evans suggested that there are fewer steps to creating stacks of cord wood and less machinery required. Therefore, it was suggested that preparing cords of wood for wood stove use would save us time and money and be better for the environment. Furthermore, there would be less machinery used and therefore, less noise for the neighborhood. Bob estimates that our composting program costs the district \$400,000/year. There was disagreement. The Commissioners asked Alan to prepare a cost analysis of our composting operation by the next meeting. Alan and David explained that locust and oak make good firewood, but Norway Maple - the majority of trees brought to the station - makes poor firewood. David suggested that there are very few islanders who use cord wood to heat their homes and it is not practical to think we can change this behavior. Sarah suggested that wood as fuel is not a sustainable goal, regardless of the environmental consequences, because we would run out of trees on island very quickly. Alan explained that wood often arrives to the compost

station in awkward to handle pieces which would make pulling out pieces of locust and oak that would make good firewood labor intensive. In order to find out the community need for cord wood, the Commissioners asked Alan to create 3-4 cords of locust or oak hardwood in a convenient location for pick up. Alan will keep track of the time involved. And the number of customers. The new descriptive time cards should help with this.

Adjourned at 6:38

Executive Session to discuss personnel.
Executive Session adjourned at 7:30.

Employee Liaison, David Burnham will speak with employee #40 who asked the commissioners to consider a request. Bob Evans will bring the questions raised during Executive Session to Operations Manager Alan Thibodeau and report at the June 12th Workshop.

Respectfully Submitted By

Sarah Malinowski