

North Andover Solid Waste Advisory Committee (NASWAC)
Minutes,
Thursday, March 9, 2006

Place/Time: North Andover DPW Conference Room, 7:00PM

Attendees: Tina Klein, Chair; Bill Hmurciak, DPW Director; Joanne Parrill

February minutes accepted.

We given up on October 2005 minutes

Old Business

A) Tina reported on the town's efforts to fund the "Virtual Town Hall" software package. Budgets are being reviewed to see if the necessary \$6000.00 is available.

B) Per Elizabeth Roe, the font size for OPT editions will be adjusted so it is no smaller than the font used on the inside (generic) pages.

C) North Andover has qualified for grant money for kitchen scrap buckets and consumer education materials.

D) The Town-wide Yard Sale discussion centered around the best way to advertise it. Suggestions: Buy an ad in the Eagle-Tribune., Sandwich signs, Public Service ads in the N.A. Citizen and Town Crossings, Post signs in local thrift shops.

E) Spring OPT edition: on schedule, only minor edits needed. *Action: Karen to supply "Middle Moment" Photo.* In "What's Up" we will begin to post the upcoming NASWAC meetings and events.

New Business

A) Tina filled us in on the "Material Separation Plan 4" which focuses on getting more mercury out of the trash. One source is the wall thermostats (non-digital). During remodeling these are often discarded with the demotion waste. Another source is fluorescent lamps. It is important that Tanning salons recycle their bulbs because each bed holds between 25 and 90 bulbs, they last about half as long as a bulb used in the home, and they can contain upto 4 times the amount of mercury than a regular 8 foot bulb.

B) Tonnage comparison charts. We reviewed the charts showing North Andover trash and recycling tonnage generated vs. other MA towns of approx. 30,000 population. North Andover is above the average in both trash tonnage generated and recycling tonnage collected??. Conclusion: There is still a ways to go to

reduce our incinerated trash figures.

C) North Andover's Recycling Rate- NASWAC's goal is to achieve a 20% recycling rate (exclusive of yard waste, white goods, electronics, hazardous waste and Christmas trees) by 2007. In calendar year 2005, we hit a recycle rate of 19.4 %. This success is largely due to the enforcement of the waste ban. Increasing the rate will be achieved now in smaller increments through yard sales and a new initiative for metal recycling.

D) Efforts to distribute more red bins: discussed an initiative for new residents to get started on recycling correctly. Ideas: 1) Having real estate agents include the red bin as a welcome gift. 2) Contacting the Newcomers Club in N.A. *Action: Steve has a contact name to forward to Tina.*

E) "In town paper collection bins" have been set up by Abitibi to collect paper for rebated money. Abitibi pays \$5/ton to the sponsor. There is no cost for the collection bin and no charge to empty it. *Action: Tina will contact Jason at Abitibi to find out what is the tonnage of paper being collected.* (This number should get added to N.A.'s recycle rate.) Bill H. is interested in learning if the public schools could benefit from such a program.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM