

**New London Waste Reduction Committee**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday, March 30, 2023**

**Call to order:** Chairman Liz Meller called the meeting to order at 10:05 am

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Liz Meller, Maureen Prohl, Joy Kubit, Gerry Gold

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Jerry Coogan,

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Bill Helm, Selectman

**MEETING MINUTES:** Minutes for meeting of March 16, 2023, were unanimously approved.

**PROJECTS:**

**Earth Day event, April 22nd at Tracy Memorial Library:** Liz purchased an A-frame sign board from Paint 'N Place Signs in Newport. It will be placed at the the Chamber of Commerce Information Booth. Maureen showed draft of the Earth Day advertisement to be in the Kearsarge Shopper. Joy will prepare a news release for the event and send it to Diane Chadwick, who writes the New London Happenings column for the InterTown Record. Olivia at UVLSRPC will demonstrate home composting in the library's garden area.

**Food Waste DPW Composting Project:** Money authorized by Town Meeting approval of the Committee's warrant article will be available with start of the new fiscal year on July 1st. The Town composting project is being expanded to 160 households from the Pilot Project's 20 households. Actual new collection at the Transfer Station will begin in July.

**Decision:** sign-ups for the additional 140 households will be on a first-come basis. Enrollments could start in June once public information is distributed, or earlier if requests are received.

Discussion included preparing information for the Town website; Also, whether a unique email address could be created for on-line applicants and for distribution of future information emails to participants. Also: planning for the Committee purchase of buckets from Renewal Compost and possible distribution methods to participants. Hospital Days in August could be another time to enroll participants if the target of 140 additional households has not been met by then. Planning with DPW/Bob Harrington and Transfer Station staff is essential: where to locate bins for Renewal Compost; How to maintain quality control and participant accounting.

**Styrofoam Collection:**

The Lebanon collection is April 1st. Collection dates and locations for the rest of 2023 not yet determined.

**DPW / Transfer Station / Waste Suggestion Box:** Maureen confirmed that the Suggestion Box, once approved by Bob Harrington, will be at DPW offices on South Pleasant Street, NOT at Transfer Station, where it could be a source of traffic delays.

**Paper Waste:** Maureen said that Howard Hoke expects to be invited to attend and provide insights into the waste paper market. Echo Communications is unable to obtain supplies of paper with the

30% recycled content required by NH law. Howard said that the careful sorting of paper quality required for recycled products is too complicated and expensive for a small town like New London.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Home Composting:** The Earth Day event with Olivia's demonstration is the first step. Other possible actions could include Hospital Day compost demonstration and information dissemination; Promotion of home compost bins with special pricing on DPW bins under NRRA sponsorship' possible joint promotion of home composting bins by DPW and Rocky's Hardware. Gerry will talk with Rocky's management to test their interest. Maureen reminded that Peter Bloch is willing to produce a drone-filmed video of home composting seen at New London residential sites.

SEE: NPR [www.npr.org/2020/04/07/828918397/how-to-compost-at-home](http://www.npr.org/2020/04/07/828918397/how-to-compost-at-home) & EPA

[www.epa.gov/recycle/composting-home](http://www.epa.gov/recycle/composting-home).

**Committee Membership:** Bill Helm asked if Committee members want more members. Members present said yes, more members welcome. Bill also said Committee members will not have terms but rather continue at will.

**NEXT MEETING DATE:** Next Waste Reduction Committee meeting is scheduled for April 13 (4/13//23) Thursday at 10:00AM at Town Offices Syd Crook meeting room,

**Motion to adjourn:** Meeting adjourned at 11:05 am.

Respectfully submitted by Gerard Gold

Town of New London