

Town of Thompson ~ Transfer Station Advisory Committee
Regular Meeting January 28, 2016

The Transfer Station Advisory Committee held a meeting on Thursday, January 28, 2016 in the Merrill Seney Community Room. Members Present: Karen Durlach, Paul Horanzy, Al Landry, Lynn Landry, David Ostrowski
Also Present: First Selectman Ken Beausoleil, Selectman Shaina Smith, Selectman Steve Herbert, Leo Adams, Director of Public Works, Elmer Preston and Josh Butts, Transfer Station Staff

Meeting Moderator and Secretary: Karen volunteered to act as Moderator for this meeting. She called the meeting to order at 7 PM. Lynn volunteered to record tonight's minutes. This is a joint meeting with the Board of Selectmen.

Approve Minutes of February 26, 2016: Al Landry made a motion, seconded by Paul Horanzy, to accept the minutes of February 26, 2015 as presented. All in favor, motion carries.

Changes to Agenda: None

Correspondence: None

Discussion of Criteria for Handicapped Permits: We reviewed the history of this issue and previous letters that we sent to the Board of Selectmen. It remains the consensus of this Committee to not issue Handicapped Permits. At this meeting, the Board of Selectmen voted to rescind the issuing of Handicapped Permits with the November 2016 Permit Season. Please see their minutes for the vote.

Recycling, Education and Trash Reduction Efforts: We discussed the need for improved signs and will pursue Josh's suggestion of having local graphic businesses create the signs to be donated by other local businesses. The need for increased recycling and the drop in prices for recycled products was discussed. Shaina will submit information to the Villager regarding the need for increased recycling. Leo suggested beginning a Pay As You Throw system. Residents would use a bag of their choice, and would be charged at the gate based on bag size, as well as paying an annual Permit fee. The financial information will be reviewed by the Board of Selectmen and Leo during the budget process. We also discussed past actions by this Committee, including bringing the Bulky Waste fee to market price, increased signage, supporting the switch to Leo hauling the loads to obtain the best price, the scheduling of permit fee increases, and the Third Grade tours. We discussed the continuing problem of suspected abuse. We would like to know if there are grants to help the Transfer Station with equipment and upgrades. Ken will ask at NECCOG to see how other communities handle their TV and other problems.

Approve Meeting Dates for 2016: Motion made by Al Landry, seconded by Karen Durlach, to approve the meeting dates for 2016, as given to the Town Clerk. All in favor, motion carries.

Citizens' Comments: None.

Comments from Committee Members: We would like to see if funds generated at the Transfer Station could be designated for Transfer Station improvements. Ken said this is a question for the auditors.

Set next Meeting Date and Agenda: We will meet in February if needed.

Adjournment: Motion made by Lynn Landry, seconded by Karen Durlach, to adjourn the meeting at 8:50.

Respectfully Submitted, Lynn Landry

The Thompson Transfer Station Advisory Committee is a committee of volunteer residents formed to improve the waste disposal system for the town of Thompson which will be cost effective, equitable for users of the Transfer Station and environmentally sound. This committee addresses issues facing the Thompson Transfer Station regarding cost, regulation, recycling, recycling education, and options for efficient operations and enforcement. By acting as a forum for Transfer Station issues, we hope to increase awareness of Thompson residents to recycle, to care for the environment, and to be responsible citizens for the beautification of our town.