



RecycleCT Board Meeting Notes
From June 8, 2021
Approved August 10, 2021

Board of Directors

Frank M. Antonacci
Vice Chair
Murphy Road Recycling

Thomas DeVivo
*Willimantic Waste Paper
Company*

Katie Dykes
Chair
CT DEEP

Michael Ferro, III
Consultant

Jennifer Heaton-Jones
*Housatonic Resources
Recovery Authority*

Suzanne E. Huminski
*Southern CT State
University*

Diane Lauricella
Consultant

Kim O'Rourke
City of Middletown

Brian Paganini
Treasurer
Quantum Biopower

Betsey Wingfield
(Katie Dykes alternate)
Chair
CT DEEP

Advisory Council

Aaron Charney
Attorney

Katie Dykes
Chair
CT DEEP

Mission: To support research, education, and public information aimed at increasing the rate of recycling and reuse.

RecycleCT Foundation, Inc.
c/o 79 Elm Street
Hartford, CT 06106

In attendance: Caleb Hamel, Betsey Wingfield, Sherill Baldwin, Emily Welch, Brian Paganini, Jennifer Heaton-Jones, Suzie Huminski, Aaron Charney, Tom DeVivo, Frank Antonacci and Diane Lauricella.

Betsey Wingfield called the meeting to order at 3:04pm.

Introductions:

- Aaron Charney, new RecycleCT Advisory Council member appointed by Rep. Borer
- Caleb Hamel is a staff attorney at CT DEEP
- Emily Welch, CT DEEP intern with Sustainable Materials Management group

Meeting went out of order of agenda, while waiting for join to ensure quorum.

Brian shared that account balances are relatively unchanged since last meeting. He's been looking into different products to move RecycleCT funds. He recommends a 12 month CD product at Torrington Savings Bank – funds from People's Money Market Account, about \$240,000 from money market and another \$10,000 from the People's checking account – which closes out People's bank account.

Paypal Account. Sherill Baldwin created this account, as requested, to provide opportunities to receive donations. Some donations have been received and Sherill is in communication with Lynn and Brian about transferring the funds and creating a process to thank donors. Sherill said some changes to webpage will include opportunities for sending checks too, as Paypal takes a percentage of donation to cover fees.

With quorum present, Tom DeVivo made a motion to approve the April 13, 2021 meeting minutes. Jennifer Heaton-Jones seconded the motion. All in favor; Frank Antonacci and Brian abstained.

Board Bylaws Committee (Tom, Aaron, Betsey, Jen).

Committee, with assistance from Caleb Hamel, reviewed the bylaws to bring them up to date and remove vestiges of original formation which was driven by the Board's desire to review and revise term limits.

MOTION: Jennifer Heaton-Jones made a motion to review the changes to the bylaws and Tom DeVivo seconded the motion.

Caleb shared possible new language to remove inconsistencies, add language about the need for a secretary as an additional Officer and that it should be a Board member. Caleb reviewed the difference between majority vote vs. majority quorum (article 4). Due to the Committee's suggestion, language was added about Board vacancies and declaration of absentee Director if they miss the annual meeting or any three Board meetings leading to removal with majority vote. Term limits were also discussed; kept at 2-year term with no limit to how many terms. Recommendation to keep the number of Directors an odd number at all times.

Committee recommended the Board create a nominating committee to re-elect and/or bring in new members. Diane Lauricella asked that members of this committee address diversity



including demographic, geographic, industry sectors (public, private, NGO), gender and an equity lens. Jennifer Heaton Jones agreed with Diane, that we need to diversify, but also discuss what kind of diversity do we need to support the Board and the work of RecycleCT. Suzie Huminski and Frank Antonacci also agreed Diane's point was an important one for the future. Betsey suggested this discussion be moved to after discussion about bylaw revisions.

MOTION: Betsey called for a vote. Board voted on all the proposed changes outlined. All in favor. No one opposed.

Betsey asked for volunteers to form a nominating/Board recruitment committee. Jennifer Heaton-Jones, Diane Lauricella, and Frank Antonacci volunteered. Betsey said she will share some DEI resources to the Committee.

Revive P/R & Outreach Committee. Diane Lauricella suggested this Committee reform. It had been led by Craig who left the Board last year and there continues to be a great need for pro-active promotion about recycling, including responding to the myths that are rampant in the news about recyclables being put in the trash. It could align with DEEP communication, but more importantly get the message/information out about RecycleCT programs and efforts. Sherill Baldwin shared that when the P/R Committee was forming, the Board was discussing a possible \$20,000 budget to put a P/R person on retainer. Frank agreed that Board was looking at setting aside \$20,000. Board members may not agree on all issues, but RecycleCT should push a unified voice on certain issues.

Betsey asked if the Board had the capacity to create another committee and suggested focusing on recruitment and DEI, then give assignments to new Board members. All agreed that this was a good approach.

Fundraising/Budget Committee (Brian, Jen, Suzie). This group has had a hard time scheduling time. Betsey asked Sherill to work with committee to help them schedule to meet before next Board meeting.

Post COVID19 Meeting Discussion. Betsey shared how state agencies are going back in the office 50:50 (in person: telework) July 1st. She asked how everyone felt about meeting in person vs. virtual. Some were ready for in-person; some were not. A few brought up distance/time of travel and asked about parking in Hartford. Betsey suggested Sherill look into setting up the next meeting for in-person and look into Dinosaur State Park, which may be closer for some and also provides free parking.

WIWO. Sherill shared that Decker has created new collateral and it's on the webpage. Timing is anticipation of the App Launch. In discussion with ReCollect and Decker, it was suggested to have an in-person launch event. Sherill inquired if that is what the Board would like to do. Members liked the idea of an in-person event. Tom and Frank said they would be willing to speak. Betsey suggested it be at a municipal transfer station/recycling center. Betsey suggested that having Commissioner Dykes speak and link with CCSMM initiatives would make it an attractive event.

Sherill asked Betsey about MIRA, who had offered RecycleCT space on their Billboard – either to have event near and/or promote the App. Betsey said due to construction she thought the billboard couldn't be seen. Diane said she wasn't keen on the use of a billboard and would share some alternative ideas with Sherill.

Lee Sawyer Community Waste Reduction and Recycling Grant Committee (Suzie, Diane, Kim). Committee offered an Information Session for applicants, which was well attended and well received. Deadline for applications is June 30th.

School Recycling Grant. Sherill said she has the application from last year and wondered if it should be changed and if the Board would like to form committee to review proposals. Due to capacity, it was suggested Sherill move forward without a committee. The Board suggested increasing the maximum request to \$2000 from \$1500. Betsey suggested talking about how much to budget for the grant at a future meeting.



Betsey asked when the Annual meeting is usually held. In 2019 (missed 2020) it was held in July. Betsey asked Sherill to look at possible dates in September and discuss agenda at August meeting, which at a minimum, include voting in Directors and Officers.

Meeting adjourned at 4:25pm.

Notes submitted by Sherill Baldwin July 29, 2021