

Lincoln Conservation Commission
Lincoln Town Hall
100 Old River Road
Lincoln, RI 02865

**MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 3, 2008 MEETING OF THE
CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

MEMBERS ATTENDING:

ANTHONY E. PERROTTI – VICE CHAIRMAN
DANIEL FLYNN
MICHAEL GRAVIER
ANNE MCGINN

MEMBERS ABSENT:

MICHAEL J. ALEXANDER - CHAIRMAN
DORIS BRAIS - TREASURER

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Tony Perrotti called the December 3, 2008 meeting of the Conservation Commission to order at 7:32 PM

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Postponed to next meeting.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT: Dave Sales, Facilities Manager/Recycling Coordinator was invited to speak regarding the recycling program in town.

Points of interest by Dave Sale–

- Lincoln's economy is one of the most solvent in RI. The state will cut aid to cities and Towns. Lincoln taking measures in case of cuts. Goal not to let Recycling personnel go.
- Dave has spoken to the recycling staff regarding the blue and green bins breaking. They have to be more careful and not to throw the bins after emptying them. The cost of the bins has risen from \$2.50 to \$6.33 for the blue bins and \$3.50 to \$7.30 for green bins. Also trash cans have been broken and have to be replaced.
- Cumberland pays twice the cost using private contractors.
- Town settled contract with Resource Recovery (RR). RR want a lot of restrictions. Held up signing.
- Town pays for the yard waste to go to Smithfield Peat. Cheaper than the dump. Travel, cost etc.
- Mattress/box springs cost \$15.00 per unit. 7/1/09 RR wants \$50.00.
- RR requires 20% of trash to be recycled. Town recycled 19.7% in 2006. Town lost \$6000.00 in money back to the Town. In 2007, 11.8%, As of Dec/2008, 17.8%. RR wants Lincoln goal for 2009 to be 35% if they get the Governors backing. There is less in the bins in 2008 due to people taking cans from bins, people buying less newspapers.
- Lincoln would like to add more products to the list. As of now only #1's and #2's are recycled. RR deducts from the percentage if #'s 3,4,5,6 etc are in the recycling bins. Those plastics are contaminants.
- 75% - 80 % of people in Lincoln are recycling. An intern did a study, but there is no time or money to notify those people who do not recycle.
- An ordinance was written and passed by the Council for a no recycling, no trash pickup policy, but has not been implemented. Need money/grant to notify residents.
- If recycling truck is down, the trash trucks take the recyclables. People call if the recycling not picked up and the trucks have to go to Johnston dump twice in one day. Takes too much time and cost money.
- Smithfield, Central Falls and Cumberland full recycling rates increased.
- Town does compost the leaves and grass cuttings. Cannot give back to the public, too much contamination. Warwick has a tub grinder which eliminates contamination. Better the facility to compost, better the compost.
- Need to pass the word to people not to put the wrong items in the bins.

- RR not helpful at the Johnston dump. Tires and trucks are damaged all the time. RR built a \$20 million facility, where the trucks drive in to a clean area, but they get more money from the private haulers, so the towns are no longer allowed to use it. They are possibly taking it down because they need more space for trash. The longevity of the Johnston dump is 15 more years if the building comes down.
- RR has signed a contract with Ocean State Power, to sell the methane from the trash.
- Items (not allowed) that people have put in the bins: pots, pans, plastic toys, toilet seats, car parts.
- Recycled items should only be #1's & 2 plastics, paper and cardboard (3' x 3' x 1' wrapped in string not tape).
Pass the word.

IV. **CORRESPONDENCE:**

Northern RI Conservation District Annual Report 2007-2008

Councilman Ron McKenna – Annette Briand has been removed from the Conservation Commission. He will start looking for a replacement.

V. **WETLAND APPLICATIONS:** None

VI. **COMMISSION PROJECTS:**

Organic Community Garden- No Report.

Butterfly Garden – No Report

Open Space – No Report

OLD BUSINESS:

Smithfield Avenue – No Report

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VIII. **NEW BUSINESS:**

IX. **ADJOURNMENT:**

Anne made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mike seconded. Vote unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 9:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie B. Alexander

Recording Secretary, Lincoln Conservation Commission