

**Middletown Resource Recycling Advisory Commission**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**December 9, 2015**

*Members present: Rebecca McLachlan, Alison Johnson, Izzy Guy, Monica Belyea,  
Others Present: Kristen Brown, Waste Zero, Bessie Bianco, Kim O'Rourke*

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm and everyone introduced themselves.

The minutes of the September meeting were approved with some minor word changes offered by Ms. Winston. The minutes of the October meeting were approved as presented.

Public Hearing – Bessie Bianco told that group that she is very passionate about recycling and composting and excited about joining to the Commission.

Guest Speaker – Ms. O'Rourke welcomed and introduced Kristen Brown from Waste Zero. Kristen has been working with Ms. O'Rourke to develop a grant application for DEEP to do a waste analysis for the City and make suggestions to implement a SMART program. She talked about how much people can save and reduce trash with a SMART program. If people pay for directly what they dispose, they think of it differently and are more inclined to recycle more and throw away less. She has national and international experience with this and she said the results are consistent. Recycling goes up, composting goes up and good will donations go up. She felt after an analysis, she could offer the City different options of how to proceed, if they chose to. There could be some interesting opportunities as well, such as curbside organics and a city wide mailing with a good will bag. Ms. Brown said studies have shown that illegal dumping does not increase significantly when SMART programs are introduced. She said that a typical community will generate 850 lb/capita/year whereas with a SMART program this can be reduced to 400 lbs/capital/year.

Ms. Johnson made and Ms. Maclachlan seconded a motion to approve proceeding with a SMART grant application to DEEP. All members present voted in favor.

Ms. Winston asked Ms. O'Rourke to develop some materials to bring to the Mayor to advocate for his support. Ms. Winston and Ms. Guy will attend the meeting with the Mayor.

Swap Shack

Dec. 10 Krishna

Dec 16 Alison

Dec 19 Monica

Dec 23 Krishna

Dec 30 Izzy

Jan 2 Chantal

Jan 6 Izzy

Jan 13 Alison

Ms. O'Rourke briefly reviewed ongoing projects: schools are all now in compliance with recycling regulations, sanitation district is seeking approval to move to single stream automated collection district wide and the bid for single stream and cardboard recycling is currently out.

Alison had the idea of doing a collection of Christmas lights on Holiday on Main Street next year.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim O'Rourke  
Recycling Coordinator