

Recycling meeting answers questions

By Sam Bari

A May 13 meeting at Town Hall inspired fresh ideas and answered citizens' questions about recycling.

A round-table discussion included the Town Council, Town Administrator Bruce Keiser, Mike Mesolella and Sarah Kite from Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corporation, and an attentive group of interested citizens.

How recycling works, the town status on government mandates, possible goals and programs, and the benefits that can be realized when the entire community gets involved in recycling as a way of life were all topics of discussion.

Successful programs from other communities were also discussed.

"The pay-as-you-throw program gives you a good indication of how much trash you create because you have to pay for everything that is hauled," Mesolella said. "It encourages everyone to create less trash and recycle more. Recycling doesn't cost a dime."

"No bin, no barrel" is another program that works well," Mesolella said. "Because if you don't put out a recycling bin, your barrel of trash does not get picked up. It's a good incentive to recycle."

Sarah Kite, also from RIRRC, explained the state mandate for recycling for Jamestown. The state mandate for this year is 26 percent. Jamestown is presently at 23.1 percent for the fiscal year and over the cap. "We want to get to 28.5 percent or higher of recycling for 2009," Kite said.

"The town currently has substantial tonnage over their portion of the cap, which is calculated at \$56 per ton," Kite said.

Town Council President Julio DiGiando asked why RIRRC only accepts plastic bottles and containers marked with a 1 or 2 for recycling. Mesolella explained that most communities that collect 1 through 7 are only recycling those marked 1 and 2. "Those marked 3 through 7 are inferior products that vendors don't want, so they go in the landfill," Mesolella said.

He said that recognizing plastic containers that are recyclable is easy. "If the container neck is larger than the base it is not recyclable. If the neck is smaller than the base it is recyclable," Mesolella said.

Councilman Bill Kelly, who was involved in waste management in the New York City area, fielded a question from the audience about why caps had to be removed from bottles before they were acceptable for recycling.

"If the caps are on the bottles, they strain the machine that crushes the bottles. The caps are on tight and the air can't escape, consequently, the bottle can't be easily compressed," Kelly said.

"What about batteries, light bulbs, etc. Where do they go?" DiGiando asked.

"We have pickup for those items," Mesolella said.

Another question from the audience was about properly discarding automobile tires and batteries. Mesolella said that those items can be disposed of at the state landfill for a fee.

Another citizen asked about grass clippings, leaves, and garden trimmings. Mesolella said that clean material can be taken to the state landfill where it will be composted.

Town councilman Bob Sut-

ton said that the town has its own compost pile at the transfer station. Anyone wanting to dispose of clean yard waste can take it to the town transfers station, he said.

Councilwoman Barbara Szepatowski said that she thought the yard waste picked up by Island Rubbish was hauled to the landfill for composting, but Joe Tiexiera from Island Rubbish said they did not compost yard waste. "It just goes into the regular trash if we pick it up," he said.

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"We have pickup for those items," Mesolella said.

Town Clerk Arlene Petit suggested that they educate the public and let them know what happens to trash. She added that Town Hall employees have recycling bins and recycle all paper and recyclable trash.

"Jamestown will get a check larger than \$7,000 this year, for its contribution to recycling," Kite said. "Use it for education and re-education. Educating seasonal residents is very important," she added.

"We need a program that was written specifically for our town. We are a hybrid," Keiser said.

At the end of the meeting, DiGiando said the matter would be discussed further before going to the Town Council. He also said that an appropriate program will be written to meet the mandates set by the state as well as create incentives for residents to participate so the town can enjoy the benefits of a successful effort.



Where in the World is the Jamestown Press?

The Hirsch family, Bennett, Dori, Julia, Madeleine, and Abigail, took the Press to Paris, near the Luxembourg Gardens, in March.

Learn about adoption at info session

The Department of Children, Youth and Families is hosting a Foster Care and Adoption Information Night on Wednesday, May 28, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the DCYF Office in North Kingstown.

DCYF staff, foster, and adoptive parents will be available to explain the program and answer questions. The information night will be at 650 Ten Rod Rd.

For more information, call Robin Perez, DCYF Foster Parent Recruiter, at 528-3700 or the DCYF office at 294-5300.

Shores group to meet next Wednesday

The Jamestown Shores Association will hold a general meeting on Wednesday, May 28, at 7 p.m. at the Senior Center on West Street.

Bring a friend or neighbor. Many topics relative to the Shores will be discussed. Other issues, important to all town residents, will also be taken up.

Coffee and dessert will be served.

Theatre group to hold annual meeting

The Jamestown Community Theatre (JCT) will hold its annual meeting on Wednesday, June 4, at 7 p.m. It will be held at a residence located at 17 Intrepid Lane. The meeting is open to all current members of JCT.

New board members will be elected and outgoing members will be thanked. The JCT wants all members to come share ideas, enthusiasm and concerns

History

Continued from page 6

25 years ago

From the Newport Daily News, May 20, 1983

Appraisers will start work at the north end of Jamestown on Saturday for the revaluation of property for the 1984 tax bills.

The School Committee will consider developing a master plan to coordinate two construction projects—a new roof and a building addition.

From the Newport Daily News, May 24, 1983

The Town Council is looking for a way to keep Newport's weekend traffic moving across Conanicut Island. Council members said they want to see an end to the bottlenecks at North Road, Eldred Avenue and East Shore Road each

time Newport has a special event such as the Blue Angels last weekend.

15 years ago

From the Jamestown Press, May 20, 1993

If you have been anxiously awaiting the reopening of the library, then wait no longer. ... The library opened on Monday this week. Although the building is open for business, construction will continue for the next five weeks until renovations of the old library building are completed.

A total of 97 bird species were seen during the ninth annual Conanicut Island Spring Bird Count held last Saturday. Sixteen birders combed the island hoping to top the record of 114 species sighted in the spring of 1990. ... The most notable observation of the day was three ospreys circling the nesting platform on Fox Hill Farm.

10 years ago

From the Jamestown Press, May 21, 1998

Public Works Director Steven Goslee told the Town Council ... that the water tower was painted, and he would start filling it Tuesday. Water from the partially filled tank is set to be tested today, and Goslee said filling the one-million-gallon tank completely would take about a week.

The Jamestown Harbor Management Commission will hold a special public meeting Wednesday, May 27, to discuss a draft proposal sent to the Department of Transportation for an \$800,000 federal grant. The Commission has proposed using the grant for reconstruction and repair of the town's piers and harbors.

Mooring service / installations Dock design / construction

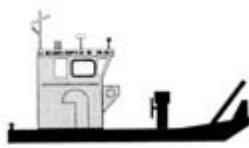
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New Dinner and Lunch Menu

Full Raw bar menu with additions of burgers, fish and chips, pizzas and lobster roll, and children's menu

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