

League of Women Voters Mid Hudson Region
Materials Management Committee
Minutes of Meeting February 9, 2016

Call to Order: 5:32 p.m.

Present: Kathy OConnor (Chair), Jolanda Jansen (President), Sarah Womer, Anne Needham, Kristen Faughnan

Absent: Dare Thompson, Soyol Smalls (Secretary), Kathie Beinkafner, Susan Holland, Cindy Lanzetta, Margot Becker

MINUTES Motion made to approve the minutes of the 12-08-15 meeting (Jolanda, Anne). All in favor.

OLD BUSINESS

UCSWM IC Kathie B was not able to be here to report due to medical issues, but is continuing to work on the Commission's report to the Ulster County Legislature. Jolanda agreed to help Kathie B with related activities as necessary.

UCRRA Kathy O reports that there are three openings on the UCCRA board. Ken Ronk has already filled one opening with Fred Wadnola; two remain unassigned. Kathie B had thought of presenting herself for one of the remaining openings, but is now unable to.

Kathy O reported, on behalf of Kathie B, that there was a meeting held on Tuesday morning about sending solid waste to Seneca Meadows by rail. Jolanda suggested trying to get the minutes from that meeting; Kathy O agreed to look into it.

UCRRA's board meetings are the fourth Wednesday of every month. Kathy O was unable to make it last time, but plans to attend the next one.

Sarah asked why the committee does not follow DCCRRA. Jolanda explained that following DCCRRA in the way that we follow UCRRA was found not to be valuable, as meetings dealt mainly with operational matters

and the economics of running the burn plant. Jolanda, Kathy O, and Sara all agreed that Lindsay Carille is a better contact point.

REPORT ON ACTIVITIES OF ZERO-TO-GO

Sarah met with the City of Beacon earlier in the day about a municipal compost pilot program. The city generates 3,200 tons of solid waste per year, which costs \$668,000 per year to manage. Garbage goes to the burn plant and recycling to ReCommunity. The goal of the composting program will be to reduce the tonnage of garbage generated.

The City of Beacon has a yearly contract with Royal Carting, which was just renewed. Sarah hopes to implement a pilot program this year, with the goal of having a program in place that can then be incorporated into next year's contracting process. She hopes to make Beacon a model city for composting, and is finding the politicians supportive.

Sarah also reported that business is going well, and that Zero-to-Go is working with more events and new customers.

Sarah asked if anyone on the committee is involved with NYSAR3. Jolanda reported that membership funds were approved by the LWVMHR board, so Kathy O can now sign up.

PAINT STEWARDSHIP ACTIVITIES

Kathy O reported that the paint stewardship letter campaign strategy has shifted. Because the paint stewardship bill has passed the NYS Senate, we are now going to send a letter from the state League to relevant members of the Assembly, rather than contacting other local Leagues to encourage them to advocate for the measure. The letter has been drafted and should be ready to go shortly; Kristen will work with Dare to resolve the final details.

Kathy O also reminded committee members that the Paint Stewardship webinar from the Product Stewardship Institute is still available online.

MARBLETOWN TRASH FEST

Margot was not able to attend the meeting and has not sent a report.

DUTCHESS COUNTY RECYCLING EVENT

Jolanda reported that Arts Mid-Hudson is going to be holding two recycling events in Dutchess County this spring. We have agreed to have a booth at one of these events, which will be an Earth Day celebration in the City of Poughkeepsie. We are planning to have composting information and an activity for children: we would like them to be able to paint a biodegradable planter and plant a plant or seed in it to take home. The date and location of this event have not yet been finalized.

Sarah wondered if Zero-to-Go should be involved in this event and plans to reach out to Linda Marston-Reid about it. It was also suggested that she might speak to Linda and Dutchess County Tourism about working with the Dragonboat Festival.

Arts Mid-Hudson's other events include a gallery event in the Town of Poughkeepsie and an event in Kingston in which artists will be given identical baskets of waste materials with which to make artwork.

MATERIALS MANAGEMENT BROCHURE

Kristen continues to work with Kathy O to develop the brochure. A draft copy was passed out and suggestions made. These included a suggestion by Kathy O to more strongly emphasize the LWVMHR logo; the suggestion of adding a blurb (Jolanda) or form (Anne) for those interested in joining; and suggestions for pictures to include.

NEW BUSINESS

- o Kathy O spoke about Materials Management on Kingston Community Radio on January 18th. Sarah agreed to be on the radio on March 21st to talk about composting and Zero-to-Go.

MEETING ADJOURNED 6:57 p.m.

(Minutes Prepared by Kristen Faughnan)