

MINUTES OF THE *January 3, 2017* MEETING
OF THE LWV MID-HUDSON REGION'S
MATERIALS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

LOCATION: Main Course Restaurant, 175 Main St, New Paltz

TIME: 5:30 p.m. (Actual start 5:50 p.m.)

PRESENT: Kathy OConnor, Kathie Beinkafner, Susan Holland, Margot Becker, Ajamu Ayinde, Merrill Sunderland, Jennifer Clark

MINUTES

Approval of the Minutes for our 11-1-16 meeting (KB/SH; AIF)
Note: we did not meet in December.

INTRODUCTION

We welcomed potential new member Jennifer Clark to our meeting. Jen was referred to the Committee by Jolanda Jansen. Jen is a lawyer and has had prior experience with watershed zoning in New York City. She also did work in Wisconsin where a gasification project was denied. Working for a justice on the court, Jen wrote up the decision (under the judge's name) allowing the project to go forward.

We certainly would welcome Jennifer's future involvement with our Committee.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Margot Becker announced that the Rockefeller Foundation has articulated a new program to reduce food waste worldwide. According to the "Agriculture and Food Security" topic on their website (RockefellerFoundation.org), "...And now, the Foundation is building on this work to address waste and loss in the food system, with the aim of demonstrating how we can reduce global food waste in half by 2030." Bravo, Rockefeller Foundation.

Margot also shared her zeal for a book she was reading called **Recycling Reconsidered** by Samantha McBride.

OLD BUSINESS

UC Solid Waste Management Improvement Commission.

Kathie B. reported that the Commission hasn't met since October. Report is almost finalized. She'll let us know when there's an opportunity to sit in on a meeting with them.

Paint Stewardship (info received after our Jan 3rd mtg)

I am happy to report, per information on the New York Product Stewardship Council's website (nypsc.org/paint/) that Senator O'Mara's bill on Paint Stewardship (S881) was introduced on January 5th and referred to the Senate Committee on Environmental Conservation, and Assemblyman Stirpe's bill (A1038) was introduced on January 10th, also referred to the Environmental Conservation Committee.

According to Marie Clarke of the American Coatings Association, we need to focus on the influence of both the Governor and Steve Englebright, who's the Chair of the Committee on Environmental Conservation in the Assembly. LETTERS TO ASSEMBLY-MAN

ENGLEBRIGHT ARE NEEDED NOW. Please refer to the template letter noted on (nypsc.org/paint/) Follow the instructions on that page, and it would be great if you would send me a copy of your letter as well (oconnor.kraye@gmail.com).

Also, Margot Becker has expressed an interest in helping to follow this topic. I hope she and all our MM Committee members will reach out to their contacts to flood Assemblyman Englebright with letters of support for this legislation.

MM Committee Topics to Address in 2017

In addition to focusing on Paint Stewardship legislation, and watching/contributing to the activities of the UC_SWMIC, the Committee identified the following topics in which we wanted to make a contribution:

- Assist in **school education activities** regarding recycling, composting and reducing trash. See Cafeteria Rangers program in CafeteriaCulture.org
- **Textile** reuse and recycle
- Minimizing **food waste**
- Encouraging the concept of **REFUSE** in the first place, and last
- Compare the environmental options of disposing **human remains**.

February 9th Meeting of the AAUW in P'OK

Susan Holland let us know that the American Association of University Women was going to address the subject of decluttering and reducing acquisition of “stuff” at this meeting. We gave her some suggested places for donation and recycling, and Dare Thompson followed up by email with some additional recommendations. Many of us would like to attend that meeting on the 9th.

NEW BUSINESS

Visit to the **Delaware County Solid Waste Management Center and Compost Facility**. While a number of our Committee members have already visited this facility, everyone at the January meeting expressed an interest in going for the first time or again. Per Merrill’s recommendation, we will wait for the warmer weather — probably April. It should be noted that Margot disagrees with the nomenclature “Compost” Facility, and suggests that their product is not compost, but rather “soil amendment.”

MEETING ADJOURNED at 7:15 p.m. (although discussion continued)

NEXT MEETING: **FEBRUARY 7th**, 5:30, at The Main Course Restaurant,
New Paltz

(Minutes prepared by Kathy O and Ajamu A)