



CITY OF NEWTON
SOLID WASTE COMMISSION
1000 Commonwealth Avenue
Newton Centre, MA 02459-1449
David B. Cohen, Mayor

Sydra Schnipper, Chairman, David DelPorto, Vice Chairman, Ann Dorfman, Steven Ferrey, Elaine Gentile, Barbara Herson, Nunzio Piselli, David Queenan, Robert Rooney, Ex-Officio
Advisory: Environmental Affairs Staff, Michael Rourke, David Turocy

April 12, 2007
Minutes

- Approved minutes of March 22, 2007 meeting
- Developing models for WMI: Model I – status quo; Model II – automated with options
- Any program must be a better program and significantly cheaper
- If automated, what about extra material? Allow for a second cart? Bags?
- If automate, would get more recycling out; perhaps use a larger container for recycling and smaller for trash
- Let's look at Springfield and Nashua
- Will more people recycle if a single stream?
- WMI recommends 65 gal barrel
- Bags would be a problem for automation as they are not designed to pick up bags
- Could the truck be retrofitted with a pincer arm to pick up bags?
- The objective should be to allow one barrel per household and residents will pay for the rest
- Start Reuse Center at Rumford Avenue
- People at Sr.Citizen Center don't want any changes
- WMI wants to partner yet shows no sign of innovation
- Prep of RFP to ensure a competitive bid
- If negotiate with one vendor will not get other perspectives
- Per WMI 70-80% of City could be automated, 20-30% would be semi-automated
- WMI will survey streets
- Reason to go automation would be cost effective
- Need to be able to sell pros/cons for automation, some communities automate for aesthetics and fairness
- Limited waste study looked at 25 households with >5 barrels/bags of trash
 - Results: no c/d as expected
 - Lots of organics
 - Lots of paper
 - Cardboard
 - Cat litter/diapers
 - Lot of paper contaminated with food
- From limited study can definitely get more recycling out
- What about looking at adding food waste to yard waste? Do a pilot project with the state
- Need to cash in on the strong paper market: condos, non-profits, can we do this in-house?
- Brief discussion of a call center vs in-house customer service: will people still call us anyway?
- Immigration Info: Will follow state/fed laws
- Consultant Update: Ready to present to Commission

