

TRANSFER STATION TASK FORCE  
Minutes approved on July 7, 2021  
June 9, 2021  
9:00 am  
Zoom Remote Access

Members in attendance: Barney Arnold, Thornton Ash, Tom Bilotta, John Lavery (Vice Chair), Christine Lear (Chair), Carrie Patel, Rob Peary, John Petrie, Launa Zimmaro (joined late), Mary Zoll

Non-voting members: Gary Davis (DPW Superintendent), Tim Goddard (Town Administrator), Carren Panico (not yet sworn in, joined late)

Note: The meeting of the TFTS held on June 3 was not official because the appointed members had not been sworn in. Today is the first official meeting of the TSTF.

I. **Call to Order** – by Tim Goddard at 9:04am (estimated start time)

II. **Task force election of officers** – Tim Goddard

Tim accepted nominations for Chair. B. Arnold nominated Christine Lear, seconded by M. Zoll, no debate, unanimous roll call vote to approve Christine Lear as TSTF Chair.

Christine Lear chaired the meeting from here on.

John Lavery was nominated as Vice Chair by ? . C. Patel seconded.

Some discussion about whether we should wait until members are more acquainted. Suggested that voting on Vice Chair now provides support to Chair and allows us to move forward on tasks. Roll call vote was unanimous to approve John Lavery as Vice Chair.

III. Review of task force charge

The charge from the Select Board was shared on the screen and the task force went through the first 4 objectives, one by one.

Barney, as a member of the SB, provided some background on how the charge was developed. After a discussion of the Construction & Debris bin in March, the Select Board decided not to address this specific area but rather asked that a proposal for an overall plan for the Transfer Station be developed. As members of the SB, Barney and Dave Model met with a small working group and drafted a proposed charge for a task force to accomplish this request. With a few additions/modifications, the SB approved unanimously the Transfer Station Task Force charge dated 4-12-21.

*#1 “Reduce the overall amount of solid waste collectively generated by the households in Town”*

Discussion of data/map from DEP about solid waste tonnage. Is it accurate? Analyzed correctly? How could we be rated green on recycling and red on solid waste?

Discussion of solid waste. What goes into solid waste? Are there items that are not allowed going into solid waste?

Compliance and monitoring at the TS came up. Is solid waste being diverted to Carlisle by those without a valid sticker? What about haulers and contractors? Some towns have a gatekeeper.

Gary Davis explained that the tonnage of Construction & Debris is counted separately from solid waste tonnage and both numbers are reported to the state. Large items such as furniture end up in solid waste.

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Appliances are collected separately because they contain freon and are transported to a different disposal site. Mattresses have been going into solid waste although that will change now that we have a way to recycle them. TS users are observed putting cardboard and glass in solid waste. Metal, of any size, should be left next to the Swap Shed, and the staff put what's appropriate into the metal container to avoid contamination. Since people are using dark bags to dispose of trash, it's hard to know what non allowed items are going into solid waste. List of items not allowed is posted on each side of the solid waste container.

Comment that regardless of where Carlisle stands compared to other towns, we should be doing all that we can to reduce solid waste.

Most members were comfortable with #1.

*#2 "Bring Carlisle into compliance with all applicable state law regarding recycling"*

Discussion of the state regulations regarding transfer stations. They are long and complicated. One member found them contradictory. Is Carlisle out of compliance? Are there any penalties or consequences for being out of compliance?

The town was cited for too much cardboard going into solid waste after Christmas. Inspections of this type are rare. Tim Goddard explained that the town does receive grants from the DEP, and they could be affected.

Members were fine with #2.

*#3 "Reduce cost of operating the Transfer Station"*

Discussion about what this means. Reduce cost? Increase revenue?  
General agreement that the task force should consider the TS budget including both income and expenses.

Comment made that the task force should include consideration of how to improve services provided at Transfer Station; add value for town residents.

*#4 Create an equitable system for paying in proportion to solid waste generation by each household*

Discussion about whether this wording suggests that Pay As You Throw (PAYT) must be implemented in Carlisle.

If this task force were to recommend PAYT in its final recommendations to the SB, will residents feel it was a foregone conclusion based on the language of the #4 charge? Don't want to have this public perception.

Comment made that one interpretation of #4 is that it encourages consideration of other ways to make the system fair.

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Comment made that the 4 objectives provide some bounds for the deliverables the task force is expected to provide.

Comment made that this discussion of all 4 objectives has made it clear what the intent of the charge is, and this member is comfortable with all 4 now.

Comment made that the minutes from these meetings will be posted, there will be coverage by the Mosquito, and all the meetings are open to the public, per OML.

Comment made that we should not make changes to the SB charge; rather the task force's job is to come up with an overall plan to recommend.

Comment made that when we get to the end of our work, and if our recommendations include PAYT, the framing of them needs to make clear that other options were carefully considered.

The Chair concluded this portion of the agenda by stating that there was consensus to leave the charge as it stands and not recommend any changes to the Select Board.

#### IV. Minutes

Group agreed that minutes will be taken by each member of the TSTF in alpha order by last name. Thornton Ash agreed to take minutes at the next meeting, following Barney Arnold who took them for this meeting. Christine has created a template for taking the minutes.

Christine explained that the minutes of these meetings will be posted as per OML, after approval by this task force (generally voted on at the next TSTF meeting).

#### V. Next Meeting and related matters

Christine explained the process and timeline for posting the task force meetings and agenda as required by OML. She asked that any agenda items be sent to her in advance, at least 4 business days prior to the upcoming meeting; usually this will mean the Thursday prior to the next meeting. The goal is to have a one-hour meeting.

Request made that the Chair send out meeting agenda and any other documents 48 hours in advance of the meeting to allow adequate time for review by the members.

Chair will ask the Mosquito to send someone to cover these meetings.

Chair will explore setting up a google drive as repository for TSTF documents; will post so that they are for viewing only.

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VI. Adjournment

Motion made and seconded to adjourn; unanimous roll call vote. Meeting concluded shortly after 10am.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Barney Arnold.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, June 23, 9:00-10:00am, via zoom. This is a recurring meeting so the zoom link will be the same for each meeting.