

LITTER CONTROL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
Tiverton Library 34 Roosevelt Avenue, Tiverton, RI 02878
Litter Committee Website: Letstalktrashtiv.wixsite.com/home
Tuesday, March 12, 2019 @ 6:15pm (Trustee's Room)

Attendance at this meeting: Joyce Andrews, Natalie Cote, Dick Danner, Bonnie Kane, Lt. Raymond, Diane Sunderland, and Vicki Revier.

NOTE: All litter meetings will take place in the Trustee's Room at the **Tiverton Library** the first Tuesday of each month September –June, except for January, July, and August unless the committee decides to move the meeting due to the annual dine out, availability of room, or a conflict in the litter committee members' schedule.

NOTE: Please contact, Vicki Revier, 258 Bridle Way, Tiverton, RI 02878, Litter Committee Chairperson, at 401-624-2810, Victoria.Revier@bristolcc.edu, if you are interested in attending our meetings or if you attend regularly and are unable to attend a meeting so we can begin the meeting on time.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/INFO. SHARING:

(Committee)

Vicki shared with the committee that when she was walking today picking up litter, a car of four youths passed by. The driver opened her window and gave Vicki a thumb's up and thanked her for picking up litter and stated she was, "Doing a great job!" Vicki replied by saying, "Thank you for noticing" as our youth these days don't normally notice these things nor get involved as much as we need them to with litter removal in Tiverton.

GUEST(S):

Tiverton Police Officer LeDuc—to discuss a spring clean-up effort in Tiverton.

TOPICS: COMMITTEE TASKS

1. Tiverton Clean-up Week (4/27-5/4) (Diane)
Diane discussed the details of Tiverton clean-up week with the litter committee's Kick-off day on Sat., 4/27/19 at 9am at Grinell's Beach. Diane brought the flyer from last year (which will be updated) as well as a schedule as to where full bags with litter or large items can be dropped off for the DPW to pick up. Dick volunteered to donate rubber gloves for the volunteers. (Thank you, Dick!) Vicki will provide an Adopt-An-Area list at kick off for those checking in just by chance newcomers want to adopt an area in town.
2. Litter Committee Kick-off Day ` (Committee)
(See above.)
3. Beach Clean-up (Audubon Society) (Diane)
Diane informed the committee that there haven't been any groups in Tiverton involved with the coastal clean-up for quite some time now. This event takes place nationally on the third Saturday in Sept. The Audubon Society heads up this event, however, each piece of litter needs to be counted and recorded which is very time consuming. (The data taken is gathered nationally for statistical purposes.)

The committee discussed having a beach clean-up in the fall on a different date without having to find volunteers that are willing to count and record everything they pick up. The beaches included in this clean-up would be Grinell's, Fogland, and Seapowet.

Officer LeDuc said he is in contact with the Tiverton PTO for other events in town and said he would reach out to them about Tiverton clean-up week to get the word out for more volunteers to assist.

4. Contact via Facebook RI Junk-R. Baptist (Brandon Raposa employee) (Bonnie)
Vicki plans to drop in and meet Mr. Baptist from R.I. Junk. Bonnie will follow up with a Facebook message as we hope to involve this group during Tiverton clean-up week. (Officer LeDuc mentioned he also has been in contact with Mr. Baptist for other events and how much R.I. Junk are willing to assist with litter removal in Tiverton.)

R.I. Junk assisted Ginny Wholley, a Tiverton resident, and cleaned up the area behind the bate shop at the bottom of the Sakonnet Bridge as well as the road that pedestrians walk over on the Sakonnet Bridge. (See 2/5/19 Minutes)

5. Tiverton Happenings—to include Litter mission/Meetings? (Vicki)
Natalie will put a “blurb” in Tiverton Happenings about The litter committee’s mission, meeting dates/times and Tiverton clean-up week as well as contacting area newspapers as we need to get the word out about the event so we get more volunteers to assist.

6. Update on cameras in town and Twin River Casino (Lt. Raymond)
Lt. Raymond said the camera at Grinell’s is installed and that the clarity of the equipment is exceptional. There are no funds for additional cameras (to put around town) at this time as the camera at Grinell’s was purchased as part of the grant funds for the beach project. Lt. Raymond said that Chief Jones would like to get grant money for additional cameras. Natalie will contact Chief Jones about the details of grant writing.

7. Litter at Tiverton Casino (Vicki)
Vicki saw quite a bit of litter on the grass along the roadside in both directions of the Tiverton Casino, i.e., cans, plastic bottles and nip bottles. Vicki contacted Kim Ward, from the Tiverton Casino, and asked if their facility’s crew can go out weekly, weather permitting, to keep on top of this as the casino wants to be “good neighbors” in the community. Vicki will check back before the next meeting to see if the litter has been removed as this needs to be done on a daily basis.

8. Police detail at Fogland needed year round (Joyce)
Lt. Raymond asked Office LeDuc to ask the 2nd shift officers to patrol Fogland as often as possible (year round) as it is a secluded area. Joyce shared that when she goes there at low tide she picks up items along the shoreline that come in at high tide.
Lt. Raymond suggested reaching out the Tiverton Recreation Committee to discuss this further. (The Litter Committee needs someone to take on this initiative.)
9. Park + Ride litter (a state road) (Maureen M.)
Maureen M. contacted the Portsmouth Garage (DOT) and requested that the litter there be removed as often as possible as the Park and Ride is a state road. The DOT said the Park and Ride is on their list.
10. Triangular signs (in FL) on highway stating “litter being picked-up ahead” (Dick)
Dick shared information about the “litter being pick-up ahead” signs in Florida along the highways and that state workers were picking up the litter, not the ACI inmates.
Dick asked if he could pick up litter on the entrance and exit ramps to Rte. 24 and it was frowned upon as the ramps are curvy and people do not enter or exit at the posted speed limit which makes it dangerous.
11. Portsmouth State Garage (town/Park and Ride) (Maureen M.)
Nothing to report as of this meeting.
12. Litter logo for letterhead (Natalie)
Natalie and Lt. Raymond are working on making the logo either smaller or making the logo a watermark so we can print it on stock paper for thank-you letters we plan to send to those in the community that are making a difference by keeping areas litter free.
13. Litter logo on Litter Website home page (Michelle)
Thanks to Michelle Umehara, the litter logo is now on the Home page of the litter Website.
14. Litter Website inquiries linked to Vicki’s e-mail (1 inquiry) (Michelle)
Vicki received an inquiry (via the Litter Website) from Jason Clement asking when the litter committee meets as well as information about the one-time bag use initiative in town. Vicki provided him with the litter meeting dates/times and also gave him information to contact Bill Gerlach, from the Sustainability Committee, in regard to the one-time bag initiative.
15. Litter poster updates and location (Joyce)
Joyce is currently working on reducing the sizes of the photos she took for the initial poster so she can put them on smaller posters around town for community awareness.

16. Advertising in the Sakonnet Times and Herald News to promote the Litter Committee meetings. (Natalie)
Natalie will include this information when she contacts the newspapers about Tiverton clean-up week.
17. One-time plastic bags use/straws/Styrofoam (B. Gerlach e-mail) (Natalie/Vicki)
Vicki and Natalie shared an editorial in the 2/28/19 Sakonnet Times discussing the fact that Tiverton is not willing to participate in removing one-time plastic bag use—mirroring the e-mail Vicki sent to Bill in regard to this matter. Bill mentioned in his e-mail to Vicki that Barrington, RI not only removed the one-time bag use, but also polystyrene plastic (foam coffee cups). Other towns are removing plastic straws in addition to the one-time bags.
18. Tiverton Schools (Community Service) (Jennifer/Natalie)
Nothing to report at this time.
19. Contacting Tiverton businesses about Adopting-An-Area in Tiverton (Natalie/Dick)
Natalie and Dick are discussing strategies at this time.
20. How to spread the word (at the library) about our litter meetings (Committee)
Due to time restraints at this meeting, this topic was not discussed.
21. Have you seen the Litter Patrol van in Tiverton picking up trash? (Vicki)
Nothing to report at this time.
22. Group training for young children picking up trash (needles/gloves) (Vicki/R. Rogers)
Vicki reiterated what was stated by Richard Rogers that “Children need to wear heavy protection on their hands when removing litter as they can be touching needles, etc.” This needs to be discussed with the parents of young children before they go out into the community in groups to remove litter.
23. Recycling barrels on wheels (Vicki)
Vicki feels these barrels on wheels with attached covers should be mandatory to keep litter contained. Maybe they can be purchased by the town and incorporated in the resident’s taxes??

The blue and green boxes are not working. They never have lids on them and are always overflowing. (Vicki is constantly picking up pieces of blue and green bins as the garbage men throw them on the ground and they break.) Residents put these boxes out 1-2 days prior to their scheduled trash pick-up days and the town is littered from the wind blowing. The garbage truck workers don’t help when they throw the boxes into the back of the truck and litter falls outside of the truck onto the ground and ignored. This adds to the on-going litter problem.
24. Design of DPW trash pick-up schedule form box to include Litter blurb (Vicki)
Vicki will put together the “blurb” for the trash pick-up schedule and send it out to the committee (via e-mail) for review.

OTHER BUSINESS:

1. Adopt-An-Area bag inventory/list of volunteers at library updates
There are plenty of bags at the library as of this meeting.

(Vicki)

NEXT LITTER MEETING DATE:

Tuesday, *April 2, 2019*, at **6:15pm** in the Trustee's Room at the Tiverton Library.