

**St. Croix Recycling Association
Meeting Summary, November 13, 2007
6:00-7:20 PM - Pearl B. Larsen Elementary School**

Steering Committee in Attendance:

Lee Elvins *Facilitator*, Charmin Springer *Coordinator*, Lynda Galvin *Secretary*, Dee Osinski, Carey Guilbeau

Number of Attendees: 17

Welcome & Introduction – Lee Elvins

1. Lee informed the group that Steve Freeman has stepped down as the facilitator and steering committee member. Lee will be the acting facilitator until elections are held in January 2008.

The steering committee is developing information packets to give to EDCs. Dee is also researching other recycling associations to see how they structure membership. Now that we have a logo we can establish a business membership and print up stickers for participants.

Julie Wright, VIRC&D explained their role as fiduciary and umbrella agency for the Recycling Association. The RC&D will be holding its annual meeting on December 7, 2008 at the V.I. Sustainable Farm. For details see current events listed at www.usvircd.org

2. Call for Volunteers: Lee announced the need for volunteers on the following committees:

- **Marketing/Advertising** – look at fundraising opportunities to pay for advertising, experience in writing business plans for member recycling businesses
- **Computer Refurbishing** – need people who have time during the school day and some technical skills (Jeff Lawler will train)
- **Aluminum Cans** – Only one member on the committee. Victor at EZ recycling needs assistance in getting the word out to the community to bring car batteries, scrap metal, and cans to him directly at the recycling center. He will pay for materials. Since the WMA has contracted a private company to remove scrap metal from the landfill, Victor no longer has access.
- **Business Committee** – Need a new chair since Lee has assumed the position of the Facilitator. Activities include coordinating with existing recycling businesses and organizations.

3. Presentations by:

- Dee Osinski – Freecycle

Dee signed up the recycling association for freecycle.org where organizations can have an online swap shop or list items for sale. The only requirement is a volunteer to moderate the site. Volunteers could sign up for this task.

4. VIWMA Update – Charmin Springer:

- Territory wide E-Waste Collection on November 15, 16, & 17 from 9:00 AM until 1:00 PM. A fluorescent lamp collection will be held in St. Croix only at the same time.
- Kick-off for the Aluminum can recycling. Two events one is an awareness campaign and the other is the “Don’t Trash Your Cans Cash Your Cans! Aluminum Can Collection Contest in

public and private elementary schools territory-wide. The VIWMA has doubled the amount paid per can from 25 cents to 50 cents during the event, which ends November 30, 2007.

- Used Oil is collected at Public Works in Anna's Hope. Flyers are available.
- Spruce Up for the Holidays – Annual event for schools and neighborhoods to get rid of bulk and white wastes as well as making holiday displays (using energy efficient lights recommended). Waste bins can be delivered to neighborhoods for collections upon request to the VIWMA.
- Recaribe – the Caribbean-wide solid waste management conference sponsored by Clean Islands International was held at VIERS on St. John from November 5-9, 2007. Participants from the greater Caribbean and US attended looking at regional cooperation and solutions to solid waste management issues. Dee mentioned Guadeloupe has the equipment to process plastic and make recycled items.
- Community Enrichment Grants – We are looking for volunteers to review program documents and to evaluate grant proposals. Email Charmin for details: cspringer@viwma.org

5. Open Discussion

Michael Dance and Terry Chretien are interested in starting a bio-diesel operation using waste oil from local restaurants. They are looking for a location of 3,000 – 3,500 square feet.

The question was asked if recyclers divert a large quantity of waste from the solid waste stream how does the EUF fit in. Could they get money from VIWMA for recycling or using wastes? Perhaps they could co-locate a cooking oil collection bin at the motor oil collection sites.

New store in Gallows Bay called “Go Green.” Multiple vendors promoting and selling green products such as water filtration systems, solar and wind energy units, alternative septic systems and much more.

Next meeting Tuesday, December 4, 2007. 6:00 – 7:00 PM Pearl B. Larsen Elementary School