

**EAST AMWELL TOWNSHIP  
RECYCLING COMMITTEE MINUTES  
RE-ORGANIZATION MEETING  
JANUARY 8, 2019 - TUESDAY, 7:30 P.M.**

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**CALL TO ORDER AND STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Recycling Committee was called to order at 7:33 PM on January 8, 2019 in the Small Meeting Room of the Municipal Building, 1070 Route 202/31, Ringoes, NJ by W. Harrison.

In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, this was a regularly scheduled meeting pursuant to the Annual Meeting Notice as published in the December 20, 2018 issue of the Hunterdon County Democrat. A copy of the agenda was forwarded to the Hunterdon County Democrat, filed in the Township Clerk’s Office, and posted on the Bulletin Board on January 2, 2019.

**2018 ATTENDANCE (X- present; E – excused; A – absent)**

Recycling Committee Member	1/08/19	2/12/19	3/12/19	4/09/19	5/14/19	6/11/19	7/09/19	8/13/19	9/10/19	10/08/19	11/12/19	12/10/19
Will Harrison	X											
Alison Castellano	X											
Ron O’Reilly	X											
Erica Johanson	X*											
Tom Rue	E											
Mark Gunn	X											
Chantal Napoleon	E											
Kevin Ostrander	A											

*Others present: Coordinator, Rosemary Georgett \*attended virtually*

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC** – Seeing no members of the public present **R. O’Reilly made a motion that was seconded by M. Gunn to close to the public. All members carried unanimously with no objections or abstentions.**

**ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES** - The minutes from the December 11, 2018 meeting were put forward and **R. O’Reilly made a motion that was seconded by M. Gunn to accept the minutes with minor edits. All members carried unanimously with no objections or abstentions.**

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS & READING OF THE RESOLUTION** - R. Georgett called for nominations for Chairperson of the Recycling Committee. **A. Castellano nominated W. Harrison and this nomination was seconded by R. O’Reilly. R. Georgett hearing no other nominations, called for a vote. All members voted unanimously in favor of W. Harrison as Chairperson of the Recycling Committee with no objections or abstentions.**

R. Georgett called for nominations for Vice Chairperson. **W. Harrison nominated A. Castellano and this was seconded by E. Johanson. R. Georgett hearing no other nominations, called for a vote. All members voted unanimously in favor of A. Castellano as Vice Chairperson of the Recycling Committee with no objections or abstentions.**

R. Georgett read the following:

**EAST AMWELL TOWNSHIP  
RECYCLING COMMITTEE  
RESOLUTION 01-19**

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BE IT RESOLVED, by the Recycling Committee of the Township of East Amwell, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, that during 2019, the Recycling Committee will hold regularly scheduled meetings on the second Tuesday of each month.

All regular meetings will be held at 7:30 p.m., prevailing time, in the small public meeting room of the East Amwell Township Municipal Building, 1070 Route 202/31, Ringoes, New Jersey.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all items to be considered for the agenda shall be presented to the Recycling Committee Secretary no later than one week prior to the scheduled meeting, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall be published in the Hunterdon County Democrat.

LEGAL PUBLIC NOTICE: \_\_\_\_\_, 2019

\_\_\_\_\_  
Rosemary Georgett, Recycling Coordinator

**A motion was made to approve Recycling Committee Resolution 01-19 by R. O'Reilly and seconded by A. Castellano. W. Harrison commented that committee members have the option to add agenda items during a meeting. All members voted unanimously in favor of approving the Resolution.**

**ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA –**

- X.A. Keep America Beautiful Campaign by Coca-Cola
- X.B. Bale Twine correspondence

**REPORTS -**

**Youth Report:** O. Ostrander was not present to report.

**Depot Report: January 2019** – W. Harrison distributed a report via email on January 6, 2019. W. Harrison said that he came back on Sunday and found around 40 or 50 lbs. of balled up chicken wire and rusted cable on the top of the dumpster which could have contaminated everything. W. Harrison and a colleague were able to remove these items and put in them into a municipal trash receptacle. There was discussion about the few individuals do this kind of thing, and that Recycling Committee members should not do anything that could risk injury like climbing into/onto a dumpster. E. Johanson said the person who left these items probably thought it was recycling because it is metal, and although we continue to tell people, the problem continues. A. Castellano said we need to get the information out but those reading the VIP or website are probably not those contaminating this way.

There was further discussion regarding the need to continue to educate about appropriate recycling, and short of standing by the dumpsters all weekend we need to rely on key communication sources specifically the website. R. O'Reilly asked if we could put an extra sign out stating what should be in there – only glass and tin cans. A. Castellano said that we have signs with this information, and should look at them again to make sure it's clear. The signs should include both what is allowed and what is not allowed. M. Gunn will look into the signs during February Depot and report back. E. Johanson agreed she likes the idea of addition signs.

R. O'Reilly said he has purchased the turn buckles and will give them to W. Harrison to install them. R. O'Reilly provided receipts for reimbursement. W. Harrison continued regarding the Depot day report that it was a busy day with around 80 cars, and the tent worked nicely with the rain. W. Harrison said the tent can be put away with the canopy on it if it's dry. He continued that we should always try to get more than 2 or 3 people to help.

R. Georgett will send the updated list of volunteers to our members, and also send the link to volunteers for the depot through the website. A. Castellano said the website will then send a reminder. W. Harrison said that Les Hamilton said he will serve as a volunteer for the February Depot, and suggested that M. Gunn contact him.

**DEPOT LEAD ASSIGNMENTS**

December 1, 2018	R. O'Reilly	Reported at December 11 meeting
January 5, 2019	W. Harrison	Reported at January 8 meeting
February 2, 2019	M. Gunn	
March 2, 2019	T. Rue	
April 6, 2019		
May 4, 2019		
June 11, 2019		

**Township Committee Update:** K. Ostrander was not present to report.

**Environmental Commission Report:** T. Rue was not present to report. R. Georgett shared that the Township Committee had not yet assigned Environmental Commission members, and T. Rue has told her that he would like to be a Recycling Member. R. Georgett will provide T. Rue with an Oath of Office.

W. Harrison said that once a decision is made regarding the Environmental Commission and Green Team, the Township Committee will decide on liaison roles. W. Harrison said there can be 10 members of the Recycling Committee with 5 members at large and 5 members ex officio. The only non-voting ex officio role is Township Committee liaison. There was further discussion regarding having ex officio members also filling member at large roles, and that if E. Johanson joins the Green Team and it is combined with the Environmental Commission she could be the liaison.

**OLD BUSINESS -**

**Update of Ordinance – Depot charge for Trucks, Tires:** R. Georgett said the updated draft language for this Ordinance was distributed and the only missing item is the size of wooden objects that will be accepted. W. Harrison said under 120-2 we need to add a reference to tires - Tires must be off the rim, and first five tires are included in the fee for a paid vehicle. Beginning with the sixth tire, there is an addition cost of \$2 per tire. This will document our current practice.

**VIP Articles:** W. Harrison will prepare an article regarding contamination and items left after the depot. He will distribute to the committee for comment and then provide a final article to R. Georgett for submission.

A Castellano said we should also be posting these items on the website and provide links. Future agenda will reflect VIP/Website articles and content.

**Community Education Campaign on proper recycling:** R. Georgett said she has not completed this and will keep on the agenda for reporting in February.

**Styrofoam:** W. Harrison said we are pretty much starting new and collecting material. A. Castellano said this is the only program costing us money in DPW work hours, and she is going to follow up to find out. There was some discussion regarding whether DPW time transporting Styrofoam can be charged to Clean Communities grant, and R. Georgett said this not happening. A. Castellano said the DPW truck is being partially paid for by Clean Communities grant money, so shouldn't the DPW time also be covered. R. Georgett said no because the truck is being used for various other activities that are covered under Clean Communities program.

**Township Website:** A. Castellano said we need to continue to post information on the Website and push it's use as our "go to" place for information.

**INVOICES:** None. R. O'Reilly said he will provide receipts for the hardware for the shed to R. Georgett.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** W. Harrison said that we are missing recycling containers, and only about half of what we own is here.

**Keep America Beautiful/Coca-Cola Recycling Bins -** W. Harrison said we have enough recycling containers and don't need these. The Committee agreed that we will not apply for the Grant in 2019.

**Bale Twine –** A. Castellano said someone showed up with this, and she had reached out to C. Napoleon who has contacts at Tractor Supply to see if they are interested in recycling Bale Twine. She continued that we have a lot of farms in the area and finding out how to take and handle it would be beneficial and keep it out of landfills. W. Harrison said we would need a lot to do something with it. A. Castellano said we can leave it with Chantal until she returns, and W. Harrison said we will leave on the agenda for next meeting.

#### **NEW BUSINESS –**

##### **Recycling Goals for 2019:**

W. Harrison reviewed items on the 2018 goals list, and there was discussion regarding edits with the following agreed changes.

- 1 – Update language under Educate the Public to be specific about what we do and do not accept.
- 8 – Remove this item as Hunterdon County monitors events, communications and recycling for the Fairgrounds. There was some discussion regarding how recycling from the Fair Grounds is disposed of and who gets credit for the tonnage. W. Harrison said we have made a positive difference by encouraging the County to do this and they are running independently now.
- 7 - Remove Clawson Park from places being monitored.
- 4 - Remove 100% participation and leave 50% of solid waste.
- 5 – No change and A. Castellano said she will work with Thyra Zengle, 6<sup>th</sup> grade teacher at East Amwell School and Sharon Ernst, Principal to promote participation in Depot for TerraCycle. She continued that it's largely about promotion to the parents because the children can sign up but parents must bring them. A. Castellano said that the community service aspect will be reinforced. In addition, Thyra has a new curriculum item related to the global footprint, and will have on the beginning of the school year curriculum next year.
- 2, 3, and 6 – no changes

**Clean-Up Day 2019 – Preliminary Discussion:** W. Harrison asked for a motion to hold Clean Up Day on the last Saturday of the April. **A motion was made by R. O'Reilly and seconded by A. Castellano to hold Clean Up Day on April 27, 2019. All members carried unanimously with no objections or abstentions.**

W. Harrison asked R. Georgett to prepare a letter to RV regarding everything that we need for clean up day and make it the same as last year. He does not need to see it before sending. W. Harrison will contact Good Will industries and they come to collect items from the event. He continued that if he were unable to liaise with Good Will in the future, there is a document with how he handles it which includes everything we collect. R. Georgett said Good Will is a for profit business, and W. Harrison said if we have a non-profit they could be considered.

R. O'Reilly will coordinate to have Road Side Clean Up on Saturday April 20<sup>th</sup>. R. O'Reilly left the meeting at 8:51 PM.

### **Spring Newsletter:**

A Castellano said that she did this last year and it was a difficult job. She continued that it should not be done in word, and publisher is better. E. Johanson suggested we create a visual aide of what's acceptable that people can put on their refrigerator. Also the information in it is redundant after a few months. W. Harrison said the newsletter goes to all property owners and in the past we would weed out those who don't live there, absentee landlords/land owners. So it is a broad distribution beyond those who visit the website.

A Castellano said we should decide the purpose and content of the newsletter to consider if it's good use of the money we are spending. E. Johanson said she agrees it's push mail that many people throw away. A. Castellano asked if we should make the mailing something that directs everyone to the website for current township information. M. Gunn suggested we reference the Website on the front page this year and imply we may be moving away from the paper distribution. There was further discussion regarding using the Spring mailing to both promote the website and include promotional information – such as a refrigerator magnet. A. Castellano said that the Township has been spending Clean Communities grant funds to print and mail the newsletter and we may be able to put those funds to better use.

W. Harrison said the newsletter has been a shared responsibility of Recycling Committee and Environmental Commission, and A. Castellano said the newsletter had information from other sources as well. She continued that by directing to the website, we could still accomplish this and make better use of the funds. M. Gunn recommended we have this on the agenda for next month's meeting. W. Harrison said we should inform the mayor of this possible change. A. Castellano will speak with Mayor Wolfe.

**OPEN TO PUBLIC** – Seeing no members of the public present **M. Gunn made a motion that was seconded by A. Castellano to close to the public. All members carried unanimously with no objections or abstentions.**

**OPEN TO COMMITTEE** – W. Harrison said he spoke with J. Silverthorn about fixing up the foam palace and his feedback was to replace it using clean communities money. R. Georgett said a case could be made to justify this. W. Harrison said to add this to next month's agenda under old business.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion was made by M. Gunn which was seconded by A. Castellano and carried unanimously with no objections or abstentions to adjourn at 9:10 p.m.**

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Rosemary Georgett, Recycling Coordinator