

**EAST AMWELL TOWNSHIP
 RECYCLING COMMITTEE MINUTES
 BUSINESS MEETING
 February 13, 2018- TUESDAY, 7:30 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER AND STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

7:37 p.m.

In compliance with the Open Public Meeting Act, it is announced that this is a Regular Business Meeting of the East Amwell Township Recycling Committee, as published in the January 18, 2018 issue of the Hunterdon County Democrat.

ATTENDANCE:

2018 ATTENDANCE

Recycling Committee Member	1/9/18	2/13/18	3/13/18	4/10/18	5/8/18	6/12/18	7/10/18	8/14/18	9/11/18	10/9/18	11/13/18	12/11/18
Will Harrison	X	X										
Alison Castellano	X	X										
Ron O'Reilly		X										
Erica Johanson	X											
Tom Rue	X	X										
Mark Gunn		X										
Kevin Ostrander		X										

Others present: Secretary Maria Prendamano, Youth Members: O. Ostrander; Public: Frances Gavigan

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES – The minutes from the January 9, 2018 reorganization meeting were put forward. R. O'Reilly made a motion to accept the minutes that was seconded by A. Castellano. All members voted unanimously in favor of accepting the January minutes.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:

REPORTS

Youth Report O. Ostrander reported briefly about the January depot. She spend a good deal of time sorting TerraCycle and brought it over to school. M. Prendamano asked how much it was. O. Ostrander confirmed that it was a lot.

M. Prendamano reported that Clean Communities is having an event at the Fairgrounds. Sharon Ernst would like to participate at the event again. She asked if the Recycling Committee would consider purchasing t-shirts for the children to wear to the event as last time they attended the children did not have t-shirts to represent the school. She would like to open the trip up to the entire fifth grade which consist of only 26 children. W. Harrison asked if this would be a permissible use of funds. M. Prendamano believes that it is since it is an educational trip for the children.

W. Harrison asked if we would be able to do this in time for the event. A. Castellano assured him that we could. R. O'Reilly made a motion to approve an expenditure not to exceed \$250 for t-shirts for the event. The motion was seconded by T. Rue. All members were in favor of the expenditure. The committee opened to the public as Frances Gavigan wanted to contribute. Frances Gavigan offered to front the money and/or offered to pay for any amount in excess of \$250. The committee thanked her and closed to the public.

Depot Report –February 2018 W. Harrison informed R. O’Reilly that he did not have to send the report to the Environmental Commission. M. Prendamano mentioned that we may want to send it to Charlene Santo. M. Gunn asked who is responsible to check that the dumpsters are in place on Friday. W. Harrison informed him that the person running the depot is responsible.

R. O’Reilly stated that he had plenty of volunteers but the turn out seemed slightly less than in past depots. By Monday the paper container was full and the glass/plastics were only one quarter full. The depot report reflected the opposite. R. O’Reilly will correct it.

A. Castellano showed the committee the new signs one reading co-mingled for after the depot so that people showing up after the event know that the recyclables can be co-mingled.

The committee discussed attendance at the coming depots and M. Gunn offered to be at every one, he also agreed to run the April depot. K. Ostrander offered to do the May depot and W. Harrison took July.

Township Committee Update: K. Ostrander reported that the Township Committee has been discussing the budget. They have been scrutinizing the spending. It is going to be a tax neutral budget that is down by ten dollars per household. They are trying to move some money into capital expenditures. There is a wish list for some items and it came up that there is a surplus in Recycling. They did look into and expenditure on a truck. The Recycling surplus could be used for 25% of the cost of this truck. Once they get the actual cost for the truck the committee would like to get the approval of the Recycling Committee. If there is a contribution from Recycling it would be greatly appreciated. W. Harrison thought there would be no pushback from the Recycling Committee. He added that every year our committee receives more money from the state. M. Gunn asked for some clarification as to where the money came from. W. Harrison explained the grant and M. Prendamano noted that the money can only be earmarked for purposes that enhance recycling in the community.

K. Ostrander added that the truck is at the top of the wish list. We can’t afford to do it all but they plan to chip away at the list.

W. Harrison asked if the DPW could repair or replace the locks on the building being used to store the recycling. They would like to store the table and chairs in there. K. Ostrander offered to replace them. He thought he had one or two at home. He would be happy to do it. If he doesn’t have locks at home, he will purchase them and put it through petty cash.

Environmental Commission Report: T. Rue reported that the Commission did not meet in January.

OLD BUSINESS

Articles for the VIP M. Prendamano asked committee members if they thought it a good idea to put some of the same information in the VIP as they Spring Newsletter. Including the clean-up dates here and at the county. T. Rue asked what was in the newsletter. M. Prendamano reported that currently there is not too much more than recycling news and something from the school. She noted that she reached out to all of the committees and boards for input. She added that she would include the new website information as well. W. Harrison will double check with Goodwill Industries that they are still collecting TVs and computers.

A. Castellano noted that the goal is to have residents subscribe to the township website. W. Harrison clarified that we have combined articles for the VIP with the Spring Newsletter. M. Prendamano asked if the Environmental Commission might be doing well testing. T. Rue reminded that they did not meet yet.

Styrofoam- T. Rue thought there was another truckload of Styrofoam in the building. He will contact J. Silverthorne.

INVOICES – M. Prendamano noted that there were no invoices at this time.

NEW BUSINESS –

2018 Goals – R. O'Reilly asked if the township was in an agreement with the Tree removal company that parks trucks in the lot. He said it slightly affects the traffic flow of the depot. K. Ostrander did not know for sure, but would check.

The committee discussed the 2017 Goals. There was discussion about recycling at the 4H fair which is a huge endeavor. T. Rue participated with Mike Petrus last year as did W. Harrison. The committee decided that they would continue the effort. M. Prendamano added that she applied for a grant for recycling bins for the school. She requested more than was needed with the understanding that the overflow would go to the township. The bins have a small opening for cans which would help prevent contamination. R. O'Reilly made a motion to approve the Recycling Committee Goals for 2018 that was seconded by M. Gunn. All members were in favor of approving the goals.

K. Ostrander needed to excuse himself to get O. Ostrander home. A. Castellano wanted to speak about an idea she had before he left. She explained that to her knowledge there is no recycling container in the cafeteria at the school. She presented a container to the principal, John Capuano, who thought it would be too big. She has never seen one in the cafeteria. M. Prendamano noted that there is one under the table where the utensils are. A. Castellano noted that there is not container in the classroom that she uses for her daughters Girl Scout meeting. She thought that she could have the youth members inventory the school and decipher which rooms need containers. She thought that the Environmental Club could take the project on. She thought the recycling committee could fund the containers. W. Harrison suggested counting the classrooms and putting one in every classroom so that each classroom gets a new container. A. Castellano added that the office did not have a recycling container. R. O'Reilly thought it appropriate for the Recycling Committee to write a letter to the school. A. Castellano thought the Girl Scouts could take it on to work toward a patch. She could go with a proposal to the school. K. Ostrander offered to speak to his daughter's troop leader.

W. Harrison said to speak to the principal and let him know what we are thinking. R. O'Reilly thought that a formal invitation was necessary as it applies to our goals. R. O'Reilly made a motion to invite the school to participate in this project. Motion was seconded by T. Rue. All members were in favor of the proposal.

Clean-up day 2018 – This item was inadvertently skipped.

Spring Newsletter – This item was discussed previously.

Roadside Clean-up – A. Castellano noted that she was contacted by Lois Wozniak about the refreshments for the event. She asked if the PTO would co-host the event and ask for donations for the refreshments. A. Castellano thought since the cost was less than \$200 she did not want to waste one of the PTO's lives. R. O'Reilly noted that the purpose was to have a nice hand clasping between PTO and the committee. M. Prendamano will do the requisition for the refreshments for the clean-up day.

M. Prendamano asked to discuss the Spring Clean-up. She wanted to know if we should put something in the newsletter about the size or length of items. W. Harrison will ask RVD that question to clarify. T. Rue and R. O'Reilly will be there to help.

OPEN TO PUBLIC – Frances Gavigan was present from the public and offered to volunteer to fill in anytime.

OPEN TO COMMITTEE: A. Castellano wanted to add the website to the agenda. M. Prendamano thought perhaps under 'Old Business' since it has been discussed. She wanted committee members to take a look at

Hopewell Township’s website as a model. She wants to change all of the links. She would like ideas from this committee as to what they would like to see.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn was made by R. O’Reilly that was seconded by M. Gunn, and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:48 p.m.

Maria Prendamano
Recycling Committee Coordinator

CC: Rec. Com. Members Board of Health Twp. Committee & Clerk
 Recreation Com. Planning Board Zoning Board of Adjustment
 Environmental Com. Twp. Bulletin Board Farmland/Open Space Preservation