

**EAST AMWELL TOWNSHIP  
 RECYCLING COMMITTEE MINUTES  
 BUSINESS MEETING  
 May 8, 2018 - 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 7:31 PM on May 8, 2018 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 January 18, 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 May 1, 2018.

**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	X	X	X							
Alison Castellano	X	X	X	X	X							
Ron O’Reilly		X	X	X	X							
Erica Johanson	X	A	X	x *	X*							
Tom Rue	X	X	X	X	X							
Mark Gunn		X	X	X	X							
Kevin Ostrander		X	A	X	X							

*Others present: Coordinator, Rosemary Georgett, and Youth Members: Olivia Ostrander,  
 \*Erica Johanson by Speaker Phone*

**ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES** - The minutes from the April 10, 2018 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 April minutes.

**ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA** - Two items were added under X. **NEW BUSINESS:**  
 B) Environmental Commission and coordination regarding Hunterdon County Community Day  
 C) East Amwell Township School

**REPORTS -**

**Youth Report:** O. Ostrander had no updates to report.

**Depot Report: May 2018** – K. Ostrander distributed a written report and stated that it was a nice day, and we had new containers this month. It was a typical event with a few Friday night dumpers, 55 cars, and 12 TerraCycle drop offs. We were full on paper. It was heaped over and I had to throw some in with the plastics. The other dumpster was around two-thirds full. K. Ostrander thanked M. Gunn, E. Johanson and A. Castellano for coming to help. There was discussion regarding the combination lock at the grid yard sticking, and clarification that after dialing number, you need to compress & release to unlock it. W. Harrison said this should be added to instructions.

M. Gunn said the sign for the grit yard should be changed because some people think it's the same hours as on a week day basis and arrive when we are ready to close at 12:00 noon. K. Ostrander reported that there was a complaint about trucks were using the area for staging for the brush and the grit yard which blocked access to the Depot. K. Ostrander said he has spoken with Mayor Tim Matthews and the Township Committee about this because these trucks are working for the County and not paying East Amwell a fee or signing waivers. The Township Committee and DPW will discuss this, and it is outside of Recycling Committee's responsibilities although a few people mentioned it during Depot.

K Ostrander continued that regarding TerraCycle we had quite a few bags as well as some computers, phones. Sandy will pick them up.

W. Harrison stated that some people don't realize you can put paper into containers other than the one for paper, and he had someone point out to him plastic in the paper container. W. Harrison asked should we have a separate sign saying you can put paper into other containers? This would help us in not needing to move overflow paper into another container. There was some discussion regarding assumptions people make about use of the containers, and whether the sign would be read. T Rue suggested that we advertise in VIP and highlight the co-mingling element of the program stating that if a container is full, you should co-mingle and specifically reference paper.

R. O'Reilly questioned what is the current status of co-mingling? W. Harrison said if it makes our life tougher, we shouldn't even separate. K. Ostrander said that if we want to track how much we are collecting, it is good to separate. When we co-mingle everything you can't segregate for tracking purposes. A. Castellano stated certain items together don't make sense.

W. Harrison said we talked about getting a better sign at grit yard, and who will follow up? K. Ostrander said he will send a note to J. Silverthorn about making a sign to clarify that we have Depot first Saturday of the month from 9 am to 12 noon. T. Rue said we need to make the sign clear on when Depot is open. W. Harrison said we should make it partially removable for scenarios when it's full & we need to keep it locked. Then whoever is running the Depot can set it up. There was further discussion regarding what the sign would say and whether J. Silverthorn would want us to make the sign. A. Castellano suggested a new skin for the sandwich sign, and the Depot Lead could bring it & set it up.

M. Gunn made a motion to make a sign for grit yard that was seconded by E. Johanson. All members voted unanimously in favor of purchasing one sided skin not to exceed \$30. None opposed.

There was discussion about future Depot leads, and W. Harrison requested that a table be added to minutes of assignments.

**DEPOT LEAD ASSIGNMENTS**

May 5, 2018	K. Ostrander	Reported at May 8 <sup>th</sup> meeting
June 2, 2018	T. Rue	
July 7, 2018	W. Harrison	
August 4, 2018	R. O'Reilly	
September 1, 2018	M. Gunn	
October 6, 2018	T. Rue	

**Township Committee Update:** K. Ostrander had no updates to report.

**Environmental Commission Report:** T. Rue stated that June 2<sup>nd</sup> is Hunterdon County Community Day, the Environmental Commission is participating and we'll discuss this under new business. In addition T. Rue reported that the Commission chair and vice chair have been named, and the environmental resource inventory will now be done by Township Committee. Township Conservation Easement has prototype letter and it will be sent by Township Committee including a description of certain requirements. Environmental Commission will begin reviewing easements now, and notifying residents when they will be at their property. A report will then be issued to the residents. R. O'Reilly asked if they'll be issuing a new map, and T. Rue replied that there is a digital map but it is not on the website. It is likely held in the Township files.

**Roadside Clean Up :** W. Harrison invited R. O'Reilly to comment on roadside clean up. R. O'Reilly said we had about 34 families contributing, and approximately 92% of un-numbered roads in town were cleaned. The difference is obvious difference in that numbered roads are filled with trash. W. Harrison asked if East Amwell has included County & State number roads in past clean up days? R. O'Reilly replied no. There was some discussion regarding whether these roads should be included. W. Harrison said that unless residents do it themselves, those roads aren't done.

R. O'Reilly said they were asked to keep eye out for JCP&L clean up and there were four sights reported back with power company debris. There was discussion regarding our DPW also having an eye out for this debris.

K. Ostrander & O. Ostrander were thanked for their contributions and excused early at 8:03 pm.

**Spring Clean Up** W. Harrison reference the Spring Clean Up summary which was distributed with the meeting agenda. A. Castellano suggested we add the total dollars/amount to the report. W. Harrison said it was \$700. We had a heavier than average turnout and we always need three people. W. Harrison thanked A. Castellano for coming unscheduled to help, and emphasized we need to make sure we have three people confirmed next year. A. Castellano said there were three trucks that didn't pay because they snuck in at the busiest time. She saw them pull up before we got to them for payment.

W. Harrison said we'll handle this next year, and will come up with a system. In past years printed numbers were given to each car, and we will keep this on Recycling Committee agenda until we nail down a plan which will include a separate category for cars with a trailer as well as the need for participants to cut up large items. There was discussion regarding one person who came several times with an overloaded trailer, was told we were full and can not take them, and subsequently went to a Republic employee who said we are not full.

W. Harrison said we need clarity that the East Amwell Chair for the event makes the decisions, there are maximum size limits (trailer, pick-up truck, etc), and a limited number of visits, and reinforce this consistently. We need Clean Up Day Rules that we can hang our hat on added to the Ordinance and communicated to the public. The Township Committee will need to back us upon this.

W. Harrison said over the event was successful, and the funds tally. A. Castellano said the Goodwill truck was huge & completely full. T. Rue said metal was also full to overflowing. W. Harrison said that someone came in a truck filled with tires after we had closed. He approached us and I told him the books are closed but if you care to donate to the township that is OK. He declined and I walked away, after which they dumped the tires into the dumpster without paying. Once we close the books, I don't want to stay and continue to collect. There was some discussion regarding whether we should collect from those who show up after we have closed, that it isn't right they should be able to dump without paying. However if we start doing this it will become people's habit to come late and we will be stuck staying late.

W. Harrison said add this to the June agenda under old business an item to establish Clean Up Day Rules. We will make this clear in our Ordinance, and have it to show anyone who comes outside of compliance.

#### **OLD BUSINESS -**

**Articles for the VIP or Tax Mailing:** R. Georgett asked for new ideas, different from the same items we have issued repeatedly in the past. W. Harrison explained the Tax Mailing is a flier that is mailed with the tax bill. It would be good to have criteria for the Depot in this flier but there was not time to prepare this for 2018 mailing. We should advertise for Depot & Recycle Committee volunteers. T. Rue asked what should we say about co-mingling. A. Castellano stated include after hours you can put any recycling into the dumpsters. R. O'Reilly said be sure to reference that we don't want anything above top of dumpster/do not over fill. W. Harrison said R. Georgett should draft something & then send it to all of us. Then each member replies directly to R. Georgett to compile. There was discussion regarding what could be communicated and addressed via email, and outside of the Meeting. R. Georgett will clarify this for the next meeting.

**Styrofoam:** W. Harrison had no comment because it is moving along. We should keep on the agenda for future meetings under old business.

**Township Website:** A. Castellano said the decision has been we on who we're using for the website, the contract is in process and as soon as it is signed off we can begin working on populating the new website. First website meeting is May 25<sup>th</sup> in the Township Office meeting room at 7:30. Anyone can come, and the public is invited. At this meeting a decision will be made regarding the home page. Once the site structure is set up, committees can begin to populate their content. A. Castellano continued that we'll be able to decide what Recycling Committee wants on it, and hopefully I can show you more during our next meeting using the television screen in this room.

**INVOICES:** R. Georgett explained that the PO approved at the last meeting was cancelled because Shop Rite donated the refreshments for Clean Up. R. O'Reilly confirmed that Shop Rite is being thanked for this donation.

**CORRESPONDENCE –** R. Georgett shared appointments to Recycling Coordinator for Hunterdon County, Jennifer Sullivan, who is also the Certified Recycling Coordinator for East Amwell Township and will sign any documents requiring a Certified Recycling Coordinator. At this time the Tonnage Report is where she will be utilized. R. Georgett reported that we have submitted our Tonnage report and are in full compliance. There is a process for late submissions, and they are due by June 15<sup>th</sup>. E. Johanson asked about issues we experienced in the past where we had to chase local businesses for info. R. Georgett shared there is new process with most reports coming through Hunterdon County to the townships. So the accountability and follow up is done primarily by the County.

W. Harrison asked how does it compare to last year to see if there are trends? R. Georgett will review after the June 15<sup>th</sup> deadline and report back. A. Castellano said it will be interesting to see if it goes up now that reporting is coming through the County. R. O'Reilly said Recycling during Depot is counted toward this. W. Harrison said wood counts as well as solid concrete. T. Rue asked if we should include Roadside clean-up and W. Harrison confirmed that Republic reports this. There was discussion regarding collection of wood, and that trash doesn't count.

#### **NEW BUSINESS -**

**Updating the Volunteer List:** W. Harrison said we should use our volunteer list more actively so they don't lose interest. We had talked last year about calling each volunteer to see if they're still

interested. There was discussion regarding time to do it, and there was discussion regarding whether it was worth the effort to update the list. W. Harrison said if we had a viable list, who would use it to help with the Depot, and some said they would use it. W. Harrison said let's put this off until next month to decide.

**Hunterdon County Community Day** – W. Harrison said the Historic Committee will have a table at Community Day and also encouraged everyone to come to the future open house for Clawson House. W. Harrison then shared background information on what that was done at Clawson House, what is available, etc. and asked does the Recycling Committee want to have a presence at Hunterdon County Community Day? As noted earlier the Environmental Commission will also be present. There was discussion about availability and it being a short timeframe to come up with something relevant. W. Harrison confirmed that Recycling doesn't have any messages for the county and will not participate.

**East Amwell School** – A. Castellano said they are very grateful for the tee-shirts, and she'll get us pictures. They were covered under the Clean Committees grant. A. Castellano stated that she had further conversation with Sharon, and it doesn't make sense to do an inventory now, instead do one when they go back to school in the Fall. A. Castellano had asked Sharon to prepare a list of other items the school needs and the Township could contribute toward purchasing. Some items from this list were read. A. Castellano continued that they are self-funded with TerraCycle money, and we should discuss if we want to contribute for any of these items. W. Harrison said it may as simple as directing funds toward specific items for the school, and it's a great use for the funds we have. The Committee could then make a motion on this.

**OPEN TO PUBLIC** – No public present. R. O'Reilly made a motion to close to the Public which was seconded by T. Rue and carried unanimously.

**OPEN TO COMMITTEE** – No items were presented.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn was made by E. Johanson which was seconded by T. Rue, and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

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Rosemary Georgett, Recycling Coordinator

CC: Rec. Com. Members  
Recreation Com.  
Environmental Com.

Board of Health  
Planning Board Zoning  
Twp. Bulletin Board

Twp. Committee & Clerk  
Board of Adjustment  
Farmland/Open Space Preservation