

EAST AMWELL TOWNSHIP

RECYCLING COMMITTEE MINUTES

JULY 10, 2012 - TUESDAY, 7:30 P.M.

I. CALL TO ORDER

The July 2012 Business Meeting of the East Amwell Township Recycling Committee was called to order officially at 7:31 P. M. by W. Harrison, Chairperson.

II. MINUTES - Minutes of the June 12, 2012 Meeting were approved with no additions/deletions. There were no abstentions. (M. Petrus/P. McGovern)

III. ADDITIONS TO AGENDA – GUEST SPEAKER – Joann Held – Pennington Farmers Market

P. McGovern introduced our guest speaker – Ms. Joann Held, a member of the Pennington Farmers Market Board, explaining that the reason she is here this evening is to tell us about the recycling program held in conjunction with the Pennington Farmers Market. This topic was discussed at the last meeting. Ms. Held explained that recycling is held at the Pennington Farmer's Market on the last Saturday of the month. Currently this year, they are recycling: #5 plastics, foam egg cartons, wine bottle corks, and used athletic shoes. She distributed informational sheets on locations where these items are recycled and how they are forwarded to these companies. They do not recycle during the winter months. In the past, they have offered a service to their community of having a paper shredding truck available to residents. At the same time, they also collected block and sheet Styrofoam. They did not collect Styrofoam packing peanuts – those can be recycled at your favorite shipping store. They work with Nike's "Reuse-A-Shoe" to recycle used athletic shoes. P. McGovern and E. Johanson volunteered to transport these shoes if we decided to collect them. She also distributed an interesting brochure that they developed with various facts and informational items to help their residents recycle efficiently. Members discussed and asked several questions. Helpful information was exchanged between both parties. P. McGovern stated that their program seems to have an excellent marketing strategy – reaching out to their residents in various ways. W. Harrison thanked Ms. Held for her time and efforts in providing this information to us.

IV. REPORTS

A. Depot Report – July 2012 – The July 2012 Depot Day Report was distributed to members prior to the meeting via e-mail by W. Harrison. Approximately 60 vehicles were serviced. The cardboard dumpster was 65% full on Saturday and was 80% full on Sunday. The plastic dumpster was 40% full on Saturday and 60% full on Monday evening. W. Harrison reported that it was one of the hottest days – 90 degrees by 11:00 AM. He reported that he brought chairs and bottles of chilled water. More bags of labels and some electronics came in for EA School TerraCycle program. There now is a small pick-up truck load of stuff for delivery to the school. There was office paper from the Municipal Building in the shed this month. There were only two containers of bottles and cans from the ball fields that had been properly collected. All the rest of the trash and recyclables were scattered around the property comingled in most cases. W.

Harrison managed to sort a lot of it, but not all. He explained that he hopes to meet with the athletic field leaders and /or the Recreation Committee in the near future to again request their assistance concerning the recycling process. He reported that on Sunday, he found a lot of plastic bags, some filled with plastic containers and others filled with large empty horse bedding bags. These had to be fished out and discarded in the Municipal Building garbage dumpster.

B. Environmental Commission Report – M. Petrus informed members that the Environmental Commission had guest speakers from the Raritan Headwaters Association explain their well water testing program. Members discussed, voted and approved a Well Water Testing Program for East Amwell Township. Full information will be released as soon as plans are firmed up with Raritan Headwaters Association. Their Site Review Sub-committee made a site visit to a property whose owners are requesting a Board of Adjustment variance. M. Petrus stated that he recently attended a Trail Building Meeting with the Washington Crossings Park Association – trails to be built in the area of the Upper Stony Brook.

C. Township Committee Report – No report was received.

D. SWAC Report – W. Harrison confirmed that SWAC did meet on 6/19/12. SWAC sub-committees had little to report this month. There was some discussion about future shared services and how to use the education grant money. The Long-Term Strategies Committee has not been able to meet with the Freeholders. Several municipalities explained how certain recycling initiatives were working for them. Recycling at the 4-H Fair was discussed and it may not be necessary for our members to carry out the recycling, because the contract calls for the Fair staff to collect the recyclables themselves. W. Harrison suggested that our members consider monitoring the situation this year. Finally, Albe Zakes, Jr., Global VP for TerraCycle, Inc. spoke to the SWAC group about what TerraCycle offers and how community organizations can benefit.

Hazardous Waste Day will be on July 14, 2012 at the Hunterdon County Complex on Route 12. SWAC may not meet during July and August.

E. Other - No other reports were received.

V. OLD BUSINESS

VI. INVOICES - None received.

VII. CORRESPONDENCE

A. Various Minutes and Agendas

B. Resource Recycling Magazine – June 2012

C. Brochure from Rutgers – NJ Compost Operator Certification, etc.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Articles for the VIP – J. Bradstreet was absent this evening. Members discussed this topic briefly – stating that the VIP will combine the July/August issue into one, plus the deadline is this Friday.

B. Suggestions from T. Matheny - W. Harrison stated that he received an e-mail from T. Matheny with two suggestions: hold Depot Days at the Grit Yard and/or open the grit yard on Depot Days to make it available for residents to deposit their brush. This would place the responsibility of opening and closing the grit yard on the Depot Day Leader. Members discussed and decided that moving Depot Days to the grit yard was not a good idea for two reasons: less accessibility with the Municipal Building parking lot being more open and visible and the grit yard being more enclosed and residents would not be able to deposit their recyclables before and after hours. This fact would cut down on our total accumulations of recyclables counting towards our yearly Tonnage Report – less funds received from the State. W. Harrison estimated that we would lose approximately 25 percent of our annual tonnage. P. McGovern mentioned her concerns about changing the site and also read the concerns from E. Johanson given to her before the meeting, such as no bathroom facilities. However, both agreed that opening the grit yard for residents to deposit their brush would not be a problem. M. Petrus made the motion that the Recycling Committee is in agreement to be responsible to open the grit yard, but not in agreement to actually move Depot Days to the grit yard. P. McGovern seconded the motion and all were in favor. W. Harrison will inform T. Matheny of the Committee’s decision and request that signs be made up to be posted near the dumpsters.

IX. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC – No public present.

X. OPEN TO THE COMMITTEE – No comments received.

XI. ADJOURNMENT – 9:05 PM. (M. Dessel/M. Petrus)

Respectfully submitted by

Joyce S. Corboy
Recycling Coordinator

PRESENT: W. Harrison, M. Dessel, M. Petrus, P. McGovern,
J. Corboy, Coordinator/Secretary, Joann Held, Guest Speaker

ABSENT: E. Sailer, E. Johanson, J. Bradstreet, S. Katz, T. Mathews

NOTE: These minutes have been formally approved by the Recycling Committee at their August 14, 2012 meeting.

NEXT MEETING: August 14, 2012 - 7:30 PM

cc: Rec. Com. Members
Recreation Com.
Environ. Com.

Board of Health
Planning Board
Twp. Bulletin Board

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