

EAST AMWELL TOWNSHIP

RECYCLING COMMITTEE MINUTES

DECEMBER 11, 2012 - TUESDAY, 7:30 P.M.

I. CALL TO ORDER

The December 2012 Business Meeting of the East Amwell Township Recycling Committee was called to order officially at 7:30 P. M. by W. Harrison, Chairperson.

II. MINUTES - Minutes of the November 13, 2012 Meeting were approved with no corrections/deletions/additions. There were two abstentions.

(M. Petrus/P. McGovern)

III. ADDITIONS TO AGENDA: Styrofoam Recycling - to be discussed under Old Business. Secretary added 2013 Budgets – to be discussed under New Business. S. Katz requested a discussion on Recycling Ideas – to be discussed under New Business.

IV. REPORTS

A. **Depot Report – December 2012** – The December 2012 Depot Day Report was distributed to members via e-mail prior to the meeting by P. McGovern. Approximately 74 vehicles were serviced. The cardboard dumpster was 60% full on Saturday and was 100% full on Monday. The plastic dumpster was 40% full on Saturday and 85% full on Monday. Quite a few bags came in for EA School TerraCycle program. There was paper from the Municipal Building in the shed this month. There was a container of bottles and cans in the RVD trashcan from the Municipal Building, which was also added to the container dumpster. Once again, on Monday morning, there were many additional recyclables, plastic bags and trash that had been added to the container dumpster. Trash was fished out along with large pieces of Styrofoam and many Styrofoam egg cartons. One large black trash bag was filled with trash from the container dumpster. The following businesses dropped off recycling materials: Rainbow Hill Farms, Toy Box Farm, Custom Home Improvement and MAC Construction. VIP's were handed out and people were happy to get them. Members signed up for the 2013 Depot Day leaders list.

B. **Environmental Commission Report** – M. Petrus informed members that the Plant Exchange Day is being scheduled tentatively for May 2013. There will be a meeting on Friday with the new volunteer. S. Katz mentioned the recent e-mail received from T. Robbi concerning composting and rain barrels. M. Petrus stated that information will be available at the Plant Exchange Day. W. Harrison was invited to attend and provide his experiences with composting. The Environmental Commission received an application from the Board of Adjustment – Rescue Squad building addition. No site visit was needed, but comments were sent with suggestions. The Meszaros Meeting was canceled due to the storm. Re-scheduling date has not yet been made.

C. **Township Committee Report** – T. Mathews stated that at the last Township Committee meeting there were quite a few residents in attendance hoping to get some answers and express their observations about the recent storm problems and outages. No representative was present from JCP&L. JCP&L will meet with State officials first before they will meet with the

individual municipalities. The revised Solar Ordinance and the Tree Harvesting Ordinance were both approved by the Township Committee. T. Mathews gave a brief explanation of how the Tree Harvesting Ordinance will be applied - three different tiers depending on the number and size of the trees to be removed and the location of the property. The logger and/or the property owner will have to obtain a permit depending on the amount and size of trees to be removed. The Township Committee has also requested bids for brush clean-up because of the recent storm.

A previous bond ordinance which did not follow procedures was also discussed and approved. A capital purchasing ordinance for a new truck was also approved. T. Mathews stated that as of this date he has still not received a response from Shop-Rite about the plastic bag disposal issue.

D. SWAC Report – SWAC met on November 20, re-scheduled from October 30. The Education Committee led by Lisa Coster presented to SWAC the proposal plan for Increasing Overall Recycling in Hunterdon County that will be presented to the Freeholders on December 4.

She also presented the results of the County recycling survey. A summary of those results were included with this report. On December 4, the Freeholders were favorably impressed with the plan and agreed to have Alan Johnson draft a proposal to send to the State Department of Environmental Protection. Also attached to W. Harrison's SWAC report was a copy of the recent article that appeared in the Hunterdon County Democrat. The SWAC subcommittee dealing with Shared Services, led by Dan Shea, will be meeting with a representative of the County Procurement Department on December 18. W. Harrison explained the County Plan and costs involved and members briefly reviewed the results of the survey and the plan presented by Ms. Coster. M. Petrus suggested that the schools be urged to present lesson plans to include the County website.

E Other

V. OLD BUSINESS

A. Styrofoam Recycling – S. Katz stated that she met with Hopewell Valley Green Team and learned how the Styrofoam Recycling will take place. Large bags will be provided to collect the Styrofoam and M. Petrus has volunteered to take the bags to Hopewell after the Depot. Their event will take place the same day - February 2013 Depot Day. At the present time, this will be a one-time event. CD's will be collected and E. Johanson will be taking them to the Franklin, New Jersey site. The East Amwell Township website and the VIP Newsletter will be used to publicize the event. T. Mathews suggested that someone provide him with a brief news release and he will see to it that it is posted on the East Amwell School Parents E-mail. No egg cartons and no Styrofoam food containers will be collected. A handout will be prepared to distribute at the January 2013 Depot Day. Members also discussed briefly the recycling of Styrofoam egg cartons. S. Katz was asked to investigate.

VI. INVOICES - None received. W. Harrison suggested that this item be removed from the monthly agenda. Members agreed.

VII. CORRESPONDENCE

A. Resolution # 128-12 – America Recycles Day 2012

- B. E-mail message from T. Robbi, 12/3/12, re: Composting & Rain Barrels...**
- C. E-mail message from W. Harrison, 12/8/12, re: SWAC Report – Democrat article**
- D. E-mail message from S. Posselt, 12/1/12, re: Distribution of VIP**
- E. E-Mail message from S. Katz, 12/2/12, re: VIP Distribution**
- F. Various Minutes and Agendas**
- G. Resource Recycling Magazine – November 2012**

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Articles for the VIP – Styrofoam Recycling and Don-Jon – discussed elsewhere in this minutes.

B. 2013 Budgets – Members reviewed the 2012 budgets and discussed future needs for the new year. A suggestion was made that the Committee consider offering the service of having a paper shredding truck at one of the Depots. T. Mathews mentioned the fact that the Amwell Valley Business Association offers scholarships to East Amwell Township students and that monies collected from the paper shredding event might be donated to such a scholarship fund. T. Mathews will investigate further. A suggestion was made that the shredder be available at Clean-Up Day. No decision made at this time – will be discussed further in 2013. Members also questioned the use of the grant fund monies received each year – not indicated on the Recycling Committee Budget form. S. Katz had prepared a list of yearly expenditures and the amounts of grant funds received. These amounts are not shown on the Recycling Committee budgets, because these expenditures are taken from the grant fund monies received. Monies not used are carried over to the next year. Another topic discussed by members was the current fees charged for Clean-Up Day. Motion was made by M. Petrus that the Recycling Committee request that same amounts as the year 2012. J. Bradstreet seconded the motion and all were in favor. Secretary was requested (suggested by P. McGovern) to obtain the yearly income and expenditures for the Clean Communities Grant Fund and the Tonnage Grant Fund from the Chief Financial Officer. Motion was made by S. Katz and seconded by M. Petrus. All were in favor. Members also would like an accounting from the Clean-Up Day event.

C. Recycling Ideas – S. Katz stated that she had two ideas for recycling possibilities.

1. Don-Jon will deposit a locked box to collect heavy metals and electronics on a Friday before one of the Depot Days. They will pick it up on Monday. This is a free service and the tonnage will be reported back to the Township. Other townships could be invited. W. Harrison stated that we do have other sources for electronic recycling, such as the County Electronic Recycling Program and Good Will Industries. He also questioned the amount of white metal that might be collected. The amount collected at Clean-Up Day is usually minimal. Members discussed in detail and suggested that Don-Jon be invited to send a representative to a meeting, or perhaps, set up a conference call with them. Members agreed to a conference call and S. Katz was asked to set it up.

2. S. Katz distributed copies of the current Recycling page on the Township website and then a copy of a re-designed page with suggested changes and asked for input from the members. Members briefly reviewed. T. Mathews suggested a drop-down menu, scrolling banners, graphics and M. Petrus suggested an index of contents. Members discussed the discrepancies in

the Township as far as what is collected curbside. Those who have the new containers from RVD are allowed to recycle more and in a single stream manner, whereas, those who do not have the new containers can only recycle paper and containers. W. Harrison volunteered to call RVD and inquire exactly what is allowed to be collected curbside. M. Petrus also suggested listing on the website, a way that volunteers and/or new prospective members might be able to contact the Recycling Committee. Secretary explained that any changes for the website would have to go through T. Stahl.

IX. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC – No public present.

X. OPEN TO THE COMMITTEE – No comments received.

XI. ADJOURNMENT – 9:30 PM. (M. Petrus/J. Bradstreet)

Respectfully submitted by

**Joyce S. Corboy
Recycling Coordinator**

**PRESENT: W. Harrison, S. Katz, M. Petrus, P. McGovern, J. Bradstreet, T. Mathews,
J. Corboy, Coordinator/Secretary**

ABSENT: M. Dessel, E. Sailer

**NOTE: These minutes have been formally approved by the Recycling Committee at their
January 8, 2013 meeting.**

NEXT MEETING: January 8, 2013 - 7:30 PM

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