

EAST AMWELL TOWNSHIP

RECYCLING COMMITTEE MINUTES

OCTOBER 8, 2013 - TUESDAY, 7:30 P.M.

I. CALL TO ORDER

The October 2013 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 September 10, 2013 Business Meeting were approved with one correction on page one.. There were two abstentions. (S. Katz/M. Petrus)

III. ADDITIONS TO AGENDA – 2014 Calendar Events including Fair Grounds – requested by S. Katz – to be discussed under New Business.

IV. REPORTS

A. Depot Report – October 2013 – The October 2013 Depot Day Report was distributed to members prior to the meeting via e-mail by S. Katz. Approximately 65 vehicles were serviced. The cardboard dumpster was 70% full on Saturday and was 80% full on Sunday. The plastic dumpster was 30% full on Saturday and was 50 % full on Sunday. TerraCycle items collected filled 25% of a barrel. Egg cartons collected numbered a few and bottle tops/caps filled 50% of a bucket. Municipal Building recyclables were kept in the garage and the Road Crew deposited them into the dumpsters when they arrived on Friday. E. Johanson collected the ball field recyclables. M. Petrus stated that he delivered three bags of TerraCycle materials to the school and he also volunteered for both the November and December Depots. Members once again discussed having a member as the designated telephone contact/caller for Depot volunteers. E. Johanson volunteered to call M. Dessel to inquire if he would be interested in doing the job. W. Harrison suggested that in 2014, the Committee put 5 gallon buckets around the ball fields and put a sign on them stating “Put bottle caps here!”

HomeFront: The truck came late, so residents left their donations. E. Johanson and S. Katz stored them in front of the shed. Truck eventually came and all items were loaded into it. It filled approximately 20% of the truck’s capacity. S. Katz noted that she cleaned out the shed. There is now more room available in it.

DonJon Scrap Metal Collection: S. Katz noted that she was onsite when the dumpster was delivered on Friday morning. She made waterproof scrap metal signs for it. The driver was on time dropping off and picking up the dumpster. They were a pleasure to work with and there was no fee involved for the delivery/pick-up of the dumpster. A small amount of scrap metal was in the dumpster before the Depot opened on Saturday morning. S. Katz contacted several businesses prior to the Depot to inform them of the event, but none of them showed up. The 30 yd. dumpster was approximately 30% full at the end of the Depot. DonJon will forward the recycling amounts/exact tonnage to us. Members discussed further recycling of scrap metal. E. Johanson mentioned that she was aware that Frenchtown/Kingwood Township does recycle scrap metal and will check into it. W. Harrison stated that Alexandria Township also runs a scrap metal recycling event.

S. Katz stated that she will follow-up with both companies to obtain their feedback.

B. Environmental Commission Report – M. Petrus reported that the Environmental Commission had a discussion of the packaging of deer meat for the Flemington Food Bank – related to questions from local hunt clubs who have excess quotas. These are hunt clubs that are allowed to hunt on preserved lands – limiting the deer population. D. Kellogg was supplied with the information gathered.

The Environmental Commission also had a brief discussion of creating an “Invasive Strike Force.” This was in reference to a recent article in the Star Ledge Newspaper. A “mile-a-minute” weed has been found in Pennsylvania and in Watchung Reservation in New Jersey. M. Petrus made the suggestion that a Task Force should be instituted here in the Township and perhaps, use the school children in this venture. No action was currently taken, but M. Petrus will do more research on the topic.

C. Township Committee Report – T. Mathews reported that the Chief Financial Officer has resigned for a full-time position in Somerset County. Because of the strict certification requirements of New Jersey, it has been difficult to find a suitable person for the part-time position here in East Amwell. T. Mathews also mentioned that the Township Committee is discussing the drafting of an ordinance for abandoned houses and buildings – upkeep that needs to be done. Lastly, he stated that an excellent presentation was given by M. Busher/Tax Assessor at the September meeting on “An Overview of East Amwell’s 2013 Assessments of Property Values.” Mr. Wang-Iverson continued the discussion with an explanation of some of the changes in the municipal tax.

D. SWAC Report – W. Harrison informed members that SWAC met on September 17, 2013 with a quorum present. There was little business discussed that will affect East Amwell. A. Johnson reported on the recent Hunterdon County Solid Waste Transporters Meeting. There are reportedly 73 haulers operating within the County. Many only do rolloff collection, not curbside residential collection. The purpose of the meeting was to inform haulers of their recycling obligations. SWAC discussed recycling at the Fair Grounds. Even though the County has mandated that every organization using the Fair Ground must provide for trash removal and recycling, this has not been rigidly enforced. The Transfer Station tipping fee has been increase from \$77.50 to \$80 per ton. The County expects to receive \$110,000 in State grants this year. SWAC’s next meeting will probably be in November.

E. Johanson has drafted the letter mentioned in last month’s meeting concerning procedures for recycling at the Fair Grounds. She is consulting with M. Petrus on the final draft. This letter will probably be sent to A. Johnson, with copies to the Freeholders.

The next County Electronics collection day will be on October 12.

E. Other – No other reports received.

V. OLD BUSINESS

A. **Articles for the VIP** – J. Bradstreet stated that he will check with the different websites for some interesting recycling information.

VI. CORRESPONDENCE

A. E-mail Message from T. Stahl, 9/5/13, re: attached e-mail from Ross Hull/DEP – Notification of Exempt Recycling Activities – Stonybrook Meadows, LLC. W. Harrison stated that he will check into this DEP exemption.

B. E-Mail Message from M. DeFortuna/SAMR, 9/11/13, re: electronics recycling

C. Various Minutes and Agendas

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. 2014 Scheduling Calendar – Members discussed events that will be held in the year 2014. Newsletter and possibly Styrofoam Recycling in March, Clean-Up Day, Good Will Industries and Roadside Clean-Up in April, Preparation for Tax Bill insert in June, 4-H Fair in August were all mentioned this evening. S. Katz will forward this list to all via e-mail and request any other suggestions. W. Harrison stated that no final decisions can be made until the January 2014 Reorganization Meeting. Many of our members' terms are up at the end of this year. Members discussed the recycling of Styrofoam and the problems with transportation/insurance issues. T. Mathews stated that he will check with the Road Crew to see if they could transport the Styrofoam. Grant fund monies could be used to pay for his service. He will also check with T. Matheny about the new contract with Raritan Valley Waste Disposal – if there is a charge for the scrap metal dumpster at April's Clean-Up Day. W. Harrison stated that there were many good ideas for recycling in the past year, but the amounts collected were low in almost all cases. Not worth the effort and the expense. M. Petrus will try to obtain a 2014 calendar of scheduled events from the 4- H Fair Grounds Committee. W. Harrison suggested spending some of the 2014 grant monies for new recycling containers. T. Mathews made the suggestion that it might be helpful if there was a liaison between the Recreation Committee, the athletic groups, and perhaps, even the Fire Company, with the Recycling Committee.

VIII. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC – None present.

IX. OPEN TO THE COMMITTEE – W. Harrison announced that the secretary/recycling coordinator, Joyce S. Corboy, is retiring effective 12/31/13.

X. ADJOURNMENT – 9:00 PM.

(M. Petrus/J. Bradstreet)

Respectfully submitted by

Joyce S. Corboy
Recycling Coordinator

PRESENT: W. Harrison, S. Katz, J. Bradstreet, M. Petrus, E. Johanson, T. Mathews,
J. Corboy, Coordinator/Secretary

ABSENT: M. Dessel

NOTE: These minutes have been formally approved by the Recycling Committee at their
November 12, 2013 meeting.

NEXT MEETING: November 12, 2013 - 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