

EAST AMWELL TOWNSHIP

RECYCLING COMMITTEE MINUTES

February 11, 2014 - TUESDAY, 7:30 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER AND STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

In compliance with the Open Public Meeting Act, it is announced that this is a regularly scheduled Business Meeting of the East Amwell Township Recycling Committee, as published in the January 23, 2014 issue of the Hunterdon County Democrat.

MINUTES

Minutes of the December 10, 2013, business meeting were approved on a motion by M. Petrus, seconded by S. Katz and carried with two abstentions, J. Bradstreet and E. Johanson.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

T. Stahl, Clerk, chaired this portion of the meeting, calling for nominations for Chairperson of the 2014 Recycling Committee. M. Petrus nominated W. Harrison, and it seconded by J. Bradstreet. There was a call for any further nominations, and there were none. Nominations were closed by M. Petrus and seconded by J. Bradstreet. W. Harrison was voted into office unanimously.

Nominations were open for Vice Chair of the Recycling Committee. E. Johanson nominated S. Katz for this position, and it was seconded by M. Petrus. There were no further nominations, and a motion was made by M. Petrus, seconded by J. Bradstreet to close the nominations. S. Katz was voted into office unanimously. W. Harrison commented on the Recycling Coordinator being a voting member.

ANNUAL MEETING RESOLUTION: T. Stahl read the 2014 Resolution and asked for a motion to continue to hold the Recycling Committee meetings on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m., changing the November meeting from Tuesday, November 11, to Wednesday, November 12, in honor of Veteran's Day. Motion to approve the resolution by E. Johanson and seconded by P. Folk. W. Harrison noted that meetings could be held on Veteran's Day, and he had a conflicting meeting on November 12. Motion was amended by M. Petrus to change the November 2014 meeting to the second Tuesday, November 11, and it was seconded by P. Folk. The motion carried unanimously to approve the resolution.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA The cable/cord swap will be added after the Depot Report.

REPORTS

Depot Report – January 2014: W. Harrison highlighted his report: new members Ron O'Reilly and Pippin Folk helped; Dumpsters were filled with snow and difficult to remove it with shovels; the lock was frozen and W. Harrison used WD40 to open it; Dumpster signs were moved to side of the trailer and located by J. Silverthorn (DPW) – they will need to be refurbished; grityard was found unlocked

with combo shown on lock – it was closed at the end of the depot; W. Harrison prepared a Recycling Committee Resource Manual (RCRM), which will now be included in the satchel – he asked committee members to review and provide comments to him; the master list of recyclable materials is updated, although caps will be added – some discussion took place on how the caps will be collected and recycled; W. Harrison also provided a spreadsheet for 2014, which helps M. Dessell make calls for service – it’s updated twice a year.

Cord/Cable Swap M. Petrus said that this will be published for a pilot program beginning in April. He will set up five bins with labels (stereo jacks, transformer power supplies, cell chargers, power cords, miscellaneous). He will identify and label the items, which people may take. The County looks for heavy metal recycling, such as circuit boards; having the ability to recycle cords/cables is a benefit to people who may need them. They will be collected and stored in the recycling shed; if there is no need for them, they will then be recycled at a County electronic collection day.

Environmental Commission Report: J. Bradstreet and E. Johanson noted that the Commission did not meet in December. It was noted, however, that the trails are progressing.

Township Committee Update: T. Stahl said that there was nothing to report.

SWAC Report: W. Harrison said that SWAC will reorganize in February, is not a very active group, and they try to meet at least four times a year. He is the SWAC representative from East Amwell, and Sande Katz is the alternate.

OLD BUSINESS

Articles for the VIP: J. Bradstreet is working on the articles, and he will include the cord/cable swap pilot program. Styrofoam collection will also be advertised.

Styrofoam Recycling Update: E. Johanson spoke about the possibility of collecting in January, but there was not a lot of material collected because of the bad weather. The intent is to collect in February and March. Material must be clean, without tape and labels; it will be stored in waterproof bags or in the shed. She would like to have a Recycling Committee member ride with the DPW when they deliver the materials for recycling to have a photo opportunity of the landfill – the pictures can be used at Greenfest and/or put in the VIP. If there is not enough material for the trip, E. Johanson may be able to get it to the Green Team in Hopewell for their recycling. There is already one bag of Styrofoam in the shed. J. Silverthorn should be advised of the plans.

2014 Recycling Calendar: Members agreed to running depots for specific months, as will be outlined on monthly agendas:

February - M. Petrus
March – M. Petrus
April – Still Open
May – S. Katz
June - Still Open

July – W. Harrison
August – Still Open
September – J. Bradstreet
October – S. Katz
November – Still Open

Metals Recycling Update: S. Katz said that Don Jon reported only 1,000 pounds of iron collected in the fall. Going forward, the firm would charge \$350 for the container and only pay the township per pound over 10,000 lbs. collected.

E. Johanson reported on a discussion with Twp. Administrator Matheny re: collecting and storing Styrofoam on a regular basis. Mr. Matheny would entertain this if a satisfactory proposal was made. Committee members discussed this briefly, with E. Johanson suggesting a trip to Frenchtown to see how they run their metals collection operation. One suggestion was to have a locked storage area where materials could be stored; it would open on depot days and the clean-up day.

NEW BUSINESS

2014 Clean Up Day: W. Harrison explained that this usually takes place the last Saturday in April. Motion by J. Bradstreet, seconded by M. Petrus, and carried unanimously to set the clean up date on April 26, 2014, from 8:00 a.m. – noon. S. Katz suggested that other activities be restricted from the lot at this time. Some comments were exchanged, and it was noted that the bus tour last year did not conflict with clean up day.

Annual Newsletter: S. Katz explained that the newsletter is sent out in March to highlight information; without a secretary on board, the Committee agreed to start pulling information together. Committee members brainstormed on ideas for the newsletter, including the following: completing a calendar on the last page of the newsletter that residents could save for reference; the Environmental Commission will be asked for suggestions since this is a shared newsletter – J. Bradstreet and E. Johanson will bring this up at the next meeting; clean up day and roadside clean up dates will be listed; plant sale, Greenfest date, environmental organizations, and Sourlands Council dates will be included; county recycling dates, dog license information, and local baseball information will be included; Recreation Committee will be asked for input; any Township Board/Committee could also contribute; new bottle cap and real cork collections will be noted, along with information on the cable/cord swap pilot program; W. Harrison will check with Goodwill to see if they will be available for the clean up day, and this will also be added. It was also noted that there is a tax bill mailing in June for any additional information boards/committees want to get out to the community.

Committee members were encouraged to provide input and dates for the newsletter by the next meeting.

Recycling Procedures at 4H Fairgrounds: A letter is being prepared to send to A. Johnson at Hunterdon County regarding recycling at the fairgrounds. M. Petrus said that the intent is that Hunterdon County will take over the recycling on the property, noting some problems at the last fair. W. Harrison also spoke about the large (and growing) car show on the property with recycling not being encouraged. The letter will state the benefits to the County to recycle. W. Harrison will report on the letter to A. Johnson at the meeting next month.

Other Recycling Events: Committee members agreed that paying for a paper-shredding event was not cost effective since residents can go to free events elsewhere in the county.

INVOICES – None

CORRESPONDENCE – None. W. Harrison explained that the secretary did not copy any correspondence, but she would bring it to the meeting and announce its availability for review.

NEW BUSINESS, CONTINUED

2014 Goals: W. Harrison asked that last year’s goals be provided to the Committee to see what to amend at the next meeting. E. Johanson suggested increased tonnage and new venues for recycling opportunities be considered as new goals.

W. Harrison again agreed to contact Goodwill about clean up day. A letter to RVD will be prepared by the Clerk reiterating equipment needs (already spelled out in their contract) to provide three packers and two 30 yard roll offs for metals and tires for April 26.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Kendra Schroeder thanked all the volunteers who came out for the January depot day, appreciating their efforts on such a cold January day, “which was not the most pleasant.” W. Harrison commented that Kendra had been a past member of the Recycling Committee.

The meeting was closed to public comment.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by M. Petrus, seconded by J. Bradstreet, and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m.

Teresa R. Stahl, RMC/CMC
Municipal Clerk

PRESENT: W. Harrison; M. Petrus; S. Katz; P. Folk; J. Bradstreet; E. Johanson; T. Stahl, Clerk

ABSENT: M. Dessel; R. O’Reilly; T. Mathews

NEXT MEETING: February 11, 2014 – 7:30 PM

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

