

**EAST AMWELL TOWNSHIP  
RECYCLING COMMITTEE MINUTES  
BUSINESS MEETING  
February 10, 2015 - TUESDAY, 7:30 P.M.**

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**CALL TO ORDER AND STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE**

**7:32 p.m.**

In compliance with the Open Public Meeting Act, it is announced that this is the regular Business Meeting of the East Amwell Township Recycling Committee, as published in the January 22, 2015 issue of the Hunterdon County Democrat.

**ROLL CALL:**

**Present:** W. Harrison, S. Katz, M. Petrus, A. Castellano, M. Prendamano, R. O'Reilly, E. Johanson, Youth Members: J. Castellano,

**Absent:** M. Dessel, T. Mathews, Youth Members: J. Miller, L. Prendamano

**MINUTES**

Minutes of the January 13, 2015, business meeting were presented by W. Harrison for approval.

W. Harrison noted a few spelling errors. R. O'Reilly made a motion to approve amended minutes which was seconded M. Petrus. All members were in favor of approval.

**ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: None**

**REPORTS**

**Youth Report** J. Castellano read a poem that the Youth Members submitted to the VIP. "Drink to the Pencil Pouch – The Tale of TerraCycle": I used to be a drink pouch and had a juicy life, but once I was empty the trash can didn't seem right. The humans had a bright idea. A TerraCycling time is here. Let's collect them all and send them away their transformation will save the day. No more landfill for us anymore, no more polluting the ocean floor. Backpacks and coolers we can also become. Now we don't feel so glum. Clean, dried and sewn together. A pencil pouch we became, oh how clever.

E. Johanson suggested that the poem be submitted to TerraCycle. R. O'Reilly agreed. W. Harrison suggested contacting them directly. He also suggested sending the rest of the article that was submitted to the VIP. A. Castellano offered to contact TerraCycle as she is attempting a field trip to TerraCycle. E. Johanson would like to accompany her.

E. Johanson reported that she has been able to contact Princeton Molding. They can potentially be an end market for our collected Styrofoam.

**Depot Report – February 2015:** M. Petrus reported that the paper was 65% full by Monday and plastic and glass was 60% by Monday. He collected Styrofoam and used a tarp to secure it outside the

shed. There was a moderate amount of egg cartons collected. The shed lock was frozen and was opened by the DPW. The grit yard was open with the clasp out of alignment. W. Harrison will follow up with this issue.

He did conduct a survey and found that 26 people did not have curbside recycling and 22 did. Six people recycle for a business. Nineteen people said they bring special materials (CD's, egg cartons, etc.). Twenty-eight people said they do have curbside pick-up. Fifteen people do not have curbside and six said they have a dumpster on their property. Many residents had positive comments to make about municipal recycling. Specific items requested to be recycled were batteries, K-cups and bottle caps. M. Petrus asked if TerraCycle accepts bottle caps. J. Castellano stated that they do.

He has a briefcase to switch out with the current one. W. Harrison wondered if it would be weatherproof. M. Petrus stated we will keep both satchels and decide which one works best.

S. Katz asked what we could do with the information provided in the survey. A. Castellano asked if this addressed Mr. Howarth's question. S. Katz suggested asking a more specific question or just calling different companies that service our town to find out if they offer trash pick-up only.

**Environmental Commission Report:** The Commission did not meet yet in February. There is nothing new to report.

**Township Committee Update:** T. Mathews is absent. In this regard, W. Harrison made a motion to open to the public. M. Petrus seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of opening to the public. The meeting was open to the public. Present from the public was Mayor David Wang-Iverson. Mayor D. Wang Iverson reported that he is maintaining a Township Facebook page. He offered to post any news on the page.

He reported that the primary reason for the appointment of P. Kneski as Zoning Officer was his outstanding and unique qualifications for the position. He has been a resident of the Township for over thirty years. Mr. Kneski held the position of Zoning Officer nine years during the 1980's. He has also served on the Zoning Board of Adjustment for three years. Two of the three years he served as Chair. Mr. Kneski was a Township Official for the Planning Board. He also served as the Zoning Officer in Princeton. The Mayor noted that he brings the perspective of a resident to the office. All of these factors were taken into consideration when making the decision. M. Petrus thanked the Mayor for the information.

M. Petrus made a motion to close to the public. R. O'Reilly seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of closing to the public.

**SWAC Report:** SWAC has not met but will reorganize in March this year.

**Depot Report (cont.)** M. Petrus took a moment to add some information to the depot report. He inquired as to whether or not realtors gave out information to new residents. At the depot he encountered a new resident seeking information. W. Harrison suggested creating a 'Welcome Packet' for new residents. Tax Assessor Marianne Busher is privy to updated real estate transactions. M. Petrus thought perhaps residents can be directed to the website. W. Harrison felt that maybe some of the information on the website may not be up to date.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

**Articles for the VIP:** M. Prendamano will put information regarding the collection of bottle caps. Some information about recycling batteries would be helpful. W. Harrison noted that lithium ion batteries go right into the trash as there is more of a hazard to transport them. M. Prendamano asked members to email information that they want added to the VIP.

M. Prendamano referenced an email from Alan Johnson with regard to drums to collect paint. The drums would be left at the Municipal Parking Lot and once they are filled, the County will pick them up. He was looking for a few municipalities to participate. W. Harrison feels that since the County takes paint that we probably don't have the need to. S. Katz made a motion that the Committee accepts Alan Johnson's suggestion that we put paint collection drums in place. By the ensuing vote, the motion did not pass.

**Styrofoam Recycling Update:** M. Petrus found the company formerly known as Princeton Molding. He will make contact with them. He feels that we will have a truck load in about two months. W. Harrison has another piece of poly ethylene foam. M. Petrus will put it in the satchel so that members know what not to collect.

**Newsletter:** E. Johanson suggested putting some information about septic systems and perhaps having D. Kellogg add something about well testing. It was suggested that M. Prendamano reach out to Tracy Carluccio for some information on septic systems. M. Prendamano is waiting for some event dates and some of the contributors to add a blurb. W. Harrison asked if the Committee could add anything at next month's meeting. M. Prendamano hopes to have it finalized by February 20<sup>th</sup>.

M. Prendamano inquired as to whether or not the Committee wanted to send the Newsletter to the 68 listed businesses in the Township. The Committee felt that this was a good idea.

**INVOICES** – \$26.15 for NJN Publishing for publishing the yearly resolution. M. Petrus made a motion to approve the invoice. E. Johanson seconded the motion. All members voted unanimously in favor of approving the invoice.

A discussion ensued about the fees at Spring Clean-Up for tire disposal. W. Harrison noted tires numbering over five have historically been charged \$2.00 each. Loads that do not fit within the three price categories can be pre priced at the discretion of the Township Representatives, i.e.: a horse trailer may be more than a pick-up truck.

**CORRESPONDENCE** – Various newsletters and articles along with minutes and agenda’s from other committees. Resource Recycle Magazine. An invitation to FOSPC’s Forum.

**NEW BUSINESS** –

Goals 2015 – M. Prendamano forgot to bring along a printed copy of last year’s goals. She will email it along with next month’s meeting agenda and draft minutes.

Coca Cola Container Grant – M. Prendamano noted that this is the same grant that the Committee applied for last year. W. Harrison noted that we were lucky to get eight new containers from RVD. R. O’Reilly asked what kind of containers we could apply for. W. Harrison noted that they are recycling bins with a Coca Cola logo. M. Petrus made a motion to apply for the grant. E. Johanson seconded the motion. All members were in favor except R. O’Reilly. The grant application was approved. S. Katz inquired as to why R. O’Reilly voted against the application. He explained that he does not feel it is the Committees place to advertising specific enterprises especially ones that he feels has a lousy reputation.

**OPEN TO COMMITTEE** W. Harrison noted that all Committee Chairs have been invited to speak at the monthly Township Committee meetings to give a brief report.

R. O’Reilly wanted to bring up the idea of a welcome packet. He would like to get involved. He offered to be the point of contact. He would contact all of the other Committees to get input. He asked for help putting the information together. M. Petrus made a motion that the Committee pursues putting together a welcome packet for new residents. A. Castellano seconded the motion. All members voted unanimously to pursue this endeavor.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn was made by M. Petrus. This Motion was seconded by S. Katz, and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:34 p.m.

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Maria Prendamano  
Recycling Committee Coordinator

**NEXT MEETING: – March 10, 2015 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