

EAST AMWELL TOWNSHIP

RECYCLING COMMITTEE MINUTES

December 8, 2009 - TUESDAY, 7:30 P.M.

I. CALL TO ORDER

The December 2009 Business Meeting of the East Amwell Township Recycling Committee was called to order officially at 7:30 P. M. by Will Harrison, Chairperson.

II. MINUTES - Minutes of the November 10, 2009 business meeting were approved with no corrections/additions. There were three abstentions. (K. Martin/S. Katz)

III. ADDITIONS TO AGENDA –

- A. DVD from Waste Management Services – to be shown after the meeting
- B. Reorganization Date – to be discussed under New Business
- C. Alternate to SWAC – to be discussed under New Business

IV. REPORTS

A. Depot Report – December 2009 – The December 2009 Depot Day was distributed to members by M. DiDonato. 127 vehicles were serviced. Paper/cardboard dumpster was 85% full and the glass/plastic one was 80% full. By Sunday afternoon, both dumpsters were almost full. Three 5 gallon buckets of batteries were collected. Third dumpster was not used.

B. Environmental Commission Report – M. Petrus was absent this evening. Thus, no report was received.

C. Township Committee Report – T. Martin updated all members of the Township Committee on the latest information concerning the County requirements of the draft recycling ordinance. The Township Committee has not yet reviewed it. It has been reviewed by the Township's legal advisory group.

D. Internet Recycling Prices – No report was received.

E. SWAC Report – SWAC report was e-mailed to all prior to the meeting tonight. W. Harrison informed members that four SWAC members attended the Freeholders meeting on December 1. They expressed their frustration on receiving no response from their earlier letters. SWAC wants to meet with the Freeholders with the expressed goal of improving recycling in Hunterdon County. The Freeholders agreed to appoint two members to meet with four members of SWAC as a sub-committee. W. Harrison is in charge of setting up these sub-committee meetings. SWAC had two requests of the Freeholders: 1. to have direct conversation/negotiations with the Freeholders, 2. ask one Freeholder to attend SWAC meetings quarterly.

W. Harrison stated that he recommended that East Amwell agree to participate in the shared services of the County recycling coordinator for the purposes of education and enforcement support. This may still be necessary, but he recommends that we wait until the duties of that person are more clearly defined before making a firm commitment to the County. He believes that we should wait for the outcome of the upcoming negotiations with the Freeholders. In addition, the cost allocation assigned by the County for the shared services is now based upon one half of last year's recycling tonnage grant from the State. This amounts to around \$2300, and serves as a disincentive to recycling. The more we are successful in recycling, the more

we must pay. The sub-committee believes that a fairer formula should be based on the number of households in each community. A letter is coming from the County asking for our intentions regarding the shared services agreement. W. Harrison stated that he believes we should leave the door open, but we should object to the cost-allocation plan presently being imposed on us. In addition, the result of the negotiations with the Freeholders may change our plans. We have two years before our own Municipal Recycling Coordinator must be certified which gives us time to make prudent decisions about that. It is W. Harrison's suggestion that East Amwell need not finalize our own Recycling Ordinance amendments at this time until this shared services issue is clearer.

W. Harrison called for a motion to state that we are interested in shared services but do not agree with the cost allocations. Motion was made by T. Martin and seconded by M. DiDonato. All were in favor. T. Martin expressed the Township's appreciation to W. Harrison for all of his hard work on this issue. SWAC will meet next Tuesday night.

V. OLD BUSINESS

A. Recycling Ordinance Sub-Committee – Update – K. Martin stated that this issue is in a holding pattern. Comments have been received from the Township's attorney and have to be incorporated. The proposed County plan has not yet been received from the State.

B. Recycling Education - S. Katz stated she had nothing new on education – articles are continuing to appear in the VIP. She expressed the thought that the articles being written for the VIP are not exactly appropriate for the Hunterdon County Democrat. No word has been received from Connor Smith about becoming a youth member of the Recycling Committee. Secretary reported that K. Hanntz, youth member on the Environmental Commission, reported that the last Cougar Courier (East Amwell School paper) had an article on recycling and that she hopes to write one for the upcoming issue.

VI. Invoices - None received.

VII. CORRESPONDENCE

A. xc check from State Recycling FD for \$2612.72

B. Appropriation Account Summary – 1/1/09 – 11/30/09

C. Note from T. Matheny on report from East Amwell School – recycling of obsolete computer equipment

D. Memorandum from A. Johnson/Hunterdon County Utilities Authority, 11/23/09, re: 2010 Hazardous Waste & Electronic Collection Information

E. Various Minutes and Agendas

F.. Resource Recycling Magazine – November 2009

VIII. NEW BUSINESS -

A. DVD from Waste Management on Single Stream Recycling will be shown after the meeting.

B. Reorganization Date – W. Harrison called for a motion to have the Reorganization Meeting of the Recycling Committee on January 12, 2010 – the first meeting of the new year. M. DiDonato made the motion and it was seconded by K. Martin. All were in favor.

C. Alternate to SWAC – Prior to tonight’s meeting, W. Harrison sent an e-mail message to all soliciting an alternate to SWAC. He suggested that an excellent person might be S. Katz, although anyone may apply. She will consider it and let us know. He explained that SWAC does take many day trips to various facilities concerned with recycling.

IX. Open to the Public – No public present.

X. Open to the Committee – Members briefly discussed the letter sent to all businesses in East Amwell reminding them that recycling is now mandated by the State. Businesses were asked to respond back with exactly what do they recycle. A few responses have been received, but not all have responded. S. Katz suggested that a second letter go out but members decided that it was too early to take that action. This first letter might be revised with stronger wording. It was suggested that this topic be put on future agendas for more discussion. We do not yet have an official code enforcement person named. T. Martin asked W. Harrison to find out what other township are doing concerning this issue. T. Martin suggested that this item be put on the January 2010 agenda for further discussion.

XI. Adjournment – 8:26 PM.

(M. DiDonato/M. Dessel)

Respectfully submitted by

Joyce S. Corboy
Recycling Coordinator

PRESENT: W. Harrison, M. DiDonato, S. Katz, K. Martin, T. Martin, M. Dessel,
J. Corboy, Coordinator/Secretary

ABSENT: M. Petrus, M. Ammann

NOTE: These minutes have been formally approved by the Recycling Committee at their January 12, 2010 meeting.

NEXT MEETING: January 12, 2010 - 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