

**EAST AMWELL TOWNSHIP  
RECYCLING COMMITTEE MINUTES  
RE-ORGANIZATION MEETING  
JANUARY 14, 2020 - TUESDAY, 7:30 P.M.**

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**CALL TO ORDER AND STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Recycling Committee was called to order at 7:30 PM on January 14, 2020 in the Small Meeting Room of the Municipal Building, 1070 Route 202/31, Ringoes, NJ by W. Harrison.

In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, this was a regularly scheduled meeting pursuant to the Annual Meeting Notice as published in the December 20, 2019 issue of the Hunterdon County Democrat. A copy of the agenda was forwarded to the Hunterdon County Democrat, filed in the Township Clerk’s Office, and posted on the Bulletin Board on January 7, 2020.

**2020 ATTENDANCE** (X- present; E – excused; A – absent)

Recycling Committee Member	1/14/2020	2/11/2020	3/10/2020	4/13/2020	5/12/2020	6/09/2020	7/7/2020	8/11/2020	9/08/2020	10/06/2020	11/10/2020	12/08/2020
Will Harrison	X											
Alison Castellano	X											
Susan Kadlec	X											
Tom Rue	X											
Mark Gunn	X											
Chantal Napoleon	X											
Tim Matthews	A											
Vacant (Erica on Leave)												

*Others present: Coordinator, Rosemary Georgett*

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC – W. Harrison made a motion that was seconded by M. Gunn to open to the public. All members carried unanimously with no objections or abstentions. Judi DiMao was acknowledged and had no comment at this time. A. Castellano made a motion that was seconded by T. Rue to close to the public. All members carried unanimously with no objections or abstentions.**

**ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES - The minutes from the December 10, 2019 meeting were put forward and W. Harrison made a motion that was seconded by A. Castellano to accept the minutes. All members carried unanimously with no objections or abstentions.**

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS & READING OF THE RESOLUTION - R. Georgett called for nominations for Chairperson of the Recycling Committee. A. Castellano nominated W. Harrison and this nomination was seconded by S. Kadlec. R. Georgett hearing no other nominations, called for a vote. All members voted unanimously in favor of W. Harrison as Chairperson of the Recycling Committee with no objections or abstentions.**

R. Georgett called for nominations for Vice Chairperson. W. Harrison nominated A. Castellano and this was seconded by T. Rue. R. Georgett hearing no other nominations, called for a vote. All members voted unanimously in favor of A. Castellano as Vice Chairperson of the Recycling Committee with no objections or abstentions.

R. Georgett read the following:

**EAST AMWELL TOWNSHIP  
RECYCLING COMMITTEE  
RESOLUTION 01-20**

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BE IT RESOLVED, by the Recycling Committee of the Township of East Amwell, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, that during 2020, the Recycling Committee will hold regularly scheduled meetings on the second Tuesday of each month unless otherwise noticed.

All regular meetings will be held at 7:30 p.m., prevailing time, in the small public meeting room of the East Amwell Township Municipal Building, 1070 Route 202/31, Ringoes, New Jersey.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all items to be considered for the agenda shall be presented to the Recycling Committee Secretary no later than one week prior to the scheduled meeting, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall be published in the Hunterdon County Democrat.

LEGAL PUBLIC NOTICE: February 6, 2020

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Rosemary Georgett, Recycling Coordinator

**A motion was made to approve Recycling Committee Resolution 01-20 by M. Gunn and seconded by A. Castellano. W. Harrison commented that committee members have the option to add agenda items during a meeting. All members voted unanimously in favor of approving the Resolution.**

**ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA –**  
none

**REPORTS -**

**Youth Report:** O. Ostrander was not present to report.

**Depot Report: January 2020 –** W. Harrison distributed a report via email on January 6, 2020 and noted that the date was incorrect. He continued by summarizing the data and said the latch on the dumpster door was defective and so it was closed without being secured. T. Rue said when this has happened in the past, he put the chain on it. W. Harrison said he reported the problem to J. Silverthorn and C. Santo who will contact Republic to report the issue.

A Castellano said that she had closed the grit yard at 3 pm on January 4<sup>th</sup> and there were many holiday trees dumped. She continued saying that she also opened/closed the grit yard on the following Saturday January 11 from 9 to 3 and there was good activity this day as well. W. Harrison said T. Rue can contact Rob Garrett who is available to help in February or March. T. Rue will call him if needed. M. Gunn volunteered to lead the Depot in March and S. Kadlec volunteered to lead in April saying she'll need more information regarding how to handle the grit yard. Committee members provide guidance and advise. S. Kadlec asked if each member was expected to lead the Depot twice and A. Castellano said it varies. T. Rue volunteered to lead in June.

## DEPOT LEAD ASSIGNMENTS

January 4, 2020	W. Harrison	Reported at January 14 meeting
February 1, 2020	T. Rue	
March 7, 2020	M. Gunn	
April 4, 2020	S. Kadlec	
May 2, 2020		
June 6, 2020	T. Rue	
July 4, 2020	W. Harrison	

**Township Committee Update:** T. Matthews was not present to report.

**Styrofoam Recycling:** T. Rue said he came Sunday after the Depot and bagged everything, which was quite a bit. A. Castellano said E. Johanson had sent information regarding another Styrofoam collection company, and T. Rue said he called this company called Princeton Molding twice to try and get information from them but there has been no reply. W. Harrison recalled contacting them in the past without success. T. Rue said someone from the Green Team had said the company was active and a shorter distance. He continued that if they call back, we can explore this other option.

**TREX:** C. Napoleon said the Library collected 60 lbs. and is almost at 500 lbs., so hopefully we will have our next group identified soon. A. Castellano said it will probably be the Boy Scouts and C. Napoleon said she will continue to help them collect from the bins. W. Harrison asked if there was a tally sheet kept to track this and C. Napoleon said yes. A. Castellano said that there are items not acceptable for TREX that continue to be brought and this needs to be highlighted in education and communication material including a “top tips of the month” or “spotlight news” on the website. She continued that “what NOT to put in” TerraCycle and regular recycling contamination concerns should be highlighted the following months. There was further discussion regarding individuals bringing unacceptable items and S. Kadlec said there was one person who became upset when that items he brought were not accepted. Discussion continued confirming that education/communication, clear information for residents, are important and that contaminated materials are a big problem. T. Rue confirmed that Styrofoam food containers are not accepted as well as other items, so a focus on Styrofoam would also be good education. R. Georgett said that the education sub-committee identified A. Castellano’s idea of “what NOT to recycle, etc.” as the key topic for February, and also discussed creating a flier that can be handed out at the Depot with this information. She continued that flier could be useful with difficult residents as an official document, and this would be further discussed under Old Business.

**2017 Tonnage Grant:** R. Georgett said the State issues funds based on Tonnage reporting in arrears, and the funds for 2017 have just been received. She continued that the Tonnage trending report will be updated with this information and an updated report will be provided for the February committee meeting. W. Harrison said these funds are for broader use while clean communities funds are limited in their use. A. Castellano asked how much we pay for dumpsters each year and R. Georgett said the full tonnage grant goes toward dumpsters and maybe even more. W. Harrison asked if Spring clean up costs can be covered under clean communities and R. Georgett said Road Side clean up is definitely eligible because it’s cleaning up litter while Spring clean up is not. W. Harrison said there Clean Communities funds available for use and the committee should be seeking ways to utilize them.

R. Georgett will also bring Clean Communities information for review with the committee in February.

**OLD BUSINESS -**

**Recycling Education/Communication Sub-Committee:** T. Rue said the subcommittee met and discussed the need to get back to basics with information about recycling and gave an example of someone he spoke with who wasn't even aware of the recycling triangle with numbers. He continued that the sub-committee would like to create a flier to be sent out with the township tax mailing with simple, straight forward recycling information including visual images highlighting important information. T. Rue said this will be something people can keep and refer to. S. Kadlec said she is bombarded with emails and visuals are great for quick reference. R. Georgett said directing people to the website and recycle coach in the flier as well. A. Castellano showed the ads placed in the Historic Calendar, and asked about the tax mailer goes out in black and white only. R. Georgett said she will coordinate on the process for this mailing and pay with clean communities funds to print color 2-sided sheet and added costs associated with this. W. Harrison said the low hanging fruit is handing out a flier at the Depot and the content should change periodically. T. Rue said yes and it can be put in the Township office as well. A. Castellano said it needs to be in color to be fully effective and the committee agreed.

T. Rue said that the sub-committee is also looking at having an event for Earth Day which is April 22, 2020 and will coordinate it with Roadside Clean Up on April 18<sup>th</sup>. R. Georgett said coordination with Roadside Clean Up is better than Spring Clean Up because there is less car traffic and costs may be covered under clean communities. She continued say she will contact the Township Clerk, Environmental Commission, Parks and Rec to ensure this is being fully coordinated across the Township. W. Harrison asked if the committee was going to take action and R. Georgett said she and Judi DiMao were willing to put together ideas for the committee to consider. It was agreed that having the event on April 22<sup>nd</sup>, a Wednesday, doesn't make sense, it should be on the weekend. S. Kadlec said would we consider giving out sapling trees and A. Castellano said usually the Environmental Commission does this so they could do the plant swap that day. She continued saying to check whether there are any sports at the field on April 18 because that could help bring more people in or be problematic.

W. Harrison asked if the sub-committee has access to icons and if a flier could be made with what NOT to recycle for the February Depot. T. Rue said it will be difficult to have by February Depot but a draft will be ready by the February Recycling meeting. R. Georgett said the "top tips" and/or "monthly highlights" from the website could be printed out for use at the Depot.

**Recycle Coach:** R. Georgett said no update.

**Foam Palace Painting:** A. Castellano said the responsible person for this should be the Township Committee liaison and they can provide future updates. She continued that the Township Committee will have a plan in 2020 for cleaning up all municipal property, and it will be the responsibility of DPW. There was discussion regarding why this topic was identified originally, and that it's good that the Township Committee has it on their radar to address.

**Roadside Clean Up Lead:** C. Napoleon said she will lead this and R. Georgett will transition material to her. M. Gunn said he is available on both April 18<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> to help.

**2020 Giveaway:** R. Georgett said at the last committee there was a "show & tell" about reusable straws and the committee expressed interest in purchasing them as a give-aways. W. Harrison said there are reusable, and compostable options and he didn't like ones that need to be cleaned. R. Georgett said C. Napoleon had told us to remember that compostable items are only better when they are actually composed, not put into the waste stream. A. Castellano said the straws she had brought in are single use and break down easily compared with plastic straws. She contained that straws are collected through Terra Cycle. There was further discussion regarding straw options, and that they are better than plastic. R. Georgett said these could be purchased with clean communities funds and used as a prize at the Earth Day event. A. Castellano asked

about the bags purchased earlier for give-away at the Color Run. R. Georgett said the bags are not great and she will bring to the next meeting. S. Kadlec said there are nice reusable produce bags that can be washed sold at places like Basil Bandwagon, Amazon, etc. W. Harrison said straws, reusable produce bags, and the bags purchased earlier for Color Run could be stapled to a flier and handed out as a thank you at Roadside or Spring Clean Up. He continued saying we could add links to where to buy these items to the website for ease of us.

**INVOICES:** None.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** None.

**NEW BUSINESS –**

**Electronics Recycling:** R. Georgett said that Newtech Recycling, the information sent to the committee, is an organization that does no cost recycling of electronics and GreenChip is another similar organization that had dropped off information with J. Silverthorn. W. Harrison said this could be done in conjunction with the Depot, and is already done at Spring Clean Up. He was unsure if they were still collecting old TVs that contain hazardous waste. R. Georgett asked how much is collected at Spring clean-up and W. Harrison said quite a bit if collected. R. Georgett asked if the committee would like to have a second mini clean- up day maybe in the Fall, and W. Harrison said Good Will may come back for it. A. Castellano asked if we had funds for two events, and R. Georgett said maybe a second event could be limited to items we can dispose of at no cost. A. Castellano said doing a second clean-up in January after people get new equipment would be good timing and it doesn't overlap with County electronics collections which are March 21, June 13 and September 26, 2020. W. Harrison said January weather would need to be considered, and A. Castellano said the electronics disposal company could make that call. There was discussion regarding January versus early February in 2021.

W. Harrison said to close discussion today and put on the next agenda for continued discussion.

**Recycling Goals for 2020:** See attached draft goals.

**Clean-Up Day 2020 – Preliminary Discussion:** W. Harrison said A. Castellano will assist in running Clean Up Day to prepare to take over in 2021. He also asked R. Georgett to prepare a letter to Republic regarding everything that we need for clean-up day and make it the same as last year with the largest three containers available. It was agreed that Clean-Up day process works well. W. Harrison continued reviewing the size and number of packers needed.

**OPEN TO PUBLIC – T. Rue made a motion that was seconded by M. Gunn to open to the public that was carried unanimously with no objections or abstentions.** W. Harrison recognized Judi DiMao and invited her comments or suggestions. Judi showed the Committee a pen that was made of bottles and is recyclable. T. Rue asked where she got them and Judi said Staples. She continued that they could be another item to attach to fliers at the Depot. **T. Rue made a motion that was seconded by M. Gunn to close to the public. All members carried unanimously with no objections or abstentions.**

**OPEN TO COMMITTEE –** A. Castellano said there will be a Color Run by the school again on May 9, 2020 and this is a great opportunity to engage children and other members of the community.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion was made by M. Gunn which was seconded by T. Rue and carried unanimously with no objections or abstentions to adjourn at 9:05 p.m.**

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Rosemary Georgett, Recycling Coordinator