

**EAST AMWELL TOWNSHIP  
 RECYCLING COMMITTEE MINUTES  
 REGULAR MEETING  
 February 11, 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 February 11, 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 is 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, placed on the Township Website, and posted on the Township Bulletin Board.

**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	X										
Alison Castellano	X	X										
Susan Kadlec	X	X										
Vacant												
Tom Rue	X	X										
Mark Gunn	X	X										
Chantal Napoleon	X	E										
Tim Matthews	A	E										

*Others present: Coordinator, Rosemary Georgett*

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC –** Seeing no members of the public present, A. Castellano made a motion that was seconded by S. Kadlec to close to the public that was carried by all members with no objections or abstentions.

**ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES -** The minutes from the January 14, 2020 meeting were put forward and A. Castellano made a motion that was seconded by W. Harrison to accept the minutes with minor edits that was carried with no objections or abstentions.

**ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA –**

**REPORTS -**

**Youth Report:** O. Ostrander was not present to report. R. Georgett will call K. Ostrander to see if Olivia will be on the committee and if not the committee will not actively pursue other youth members but instead focus on youth attending the Depot.

**Depot Reports: February 2020 –** The attached report was submitted by T. Rue and summarized verbally. A. Castellano showed a picture of the TREX material collected and said there were several cars filled with plastic TREX material which was approximately 200+ lbs. She continued that for a Depot, the TREX material collected should go to a drop off location, such as the Stop and Shop, the same day. T. Rue said maybe the details on TREX collection should be included in the Depot report. A. Castellano said there was one youth, Madison, who helped because collection was light for Terra Cycle. She continued that a new volunteer, Joanne Leeds, was there to help again and is enthusiastic about continuing. W. Harrison asked if the dumpster closed OK and T. Rue said yes. T. Rue said

around 45 VIPs were distributed and that TREX project groups should be told they must come to the Depot to help. W. Harrison confirmed that M. Gunn would lead in March and should contact Rob Garrett who is available to help. M. Gunn asked who on the Committee could help in March; T. Rue, A. Castellano and S. Kadlec said they will. S. Kadlec asked to be in the Foam Palace next month to lead more about that aspect of the Depot.



Depot Report  
2-1-2020.pdf

### DEPOT LEAD ASSIGNMENTS

January 4, 2020	W. Harrison	Reported at January 14 meeting
February 1, 2020	T. Rue	Reported at February 11 meeting
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 it is in good shape.

**TREX Recycling:** C. Napoleon was not present to report. A. Castellano said we are getting a tremendous amount of amazon envelope with labels still on them and the labels must be cut out before sending them in. TREX doesn't accept the envelopes with labels still on them. She continued that it took her hours to cut the labels off last month and this could be in the recycling highlights – e.g. people need to cut the labels off before bringing in amazon envelopes – and Chantal will add this next month. Mike Petrus is also helping with collection and drop off. A. Castellano said the reason TREX was a lot of work at this Depot is we are between project sponsors because the library has finished. She continued saying she had reached out to the Boy Scouts who have not yet responded and several other groups including the rescue squad, who may be interested at a later date.

The most likely next project sponsor will be the 4-H group her daughter has joined for hogs, and after them maybe the 4-H group for horses, etc. A. Castellano said that would be cool because there could then be two benches in time for the Fair and it could be great promotion for the TREX program. She concluded that the 4-H groups are very promising and will benefit from/begin with the current collection. There was discussion about how this program would be impacted if NJ bans plastic bags, and it was agreed that other large sources of plastic could still be collected. A. Castellano said C. Napoleon has listed the Recycling Committee as the project sponsor for now and it will roll into Hog Club 4-H.

**Tonnage Grant Trending Report:** R. Georgett distributed a report and said the key points were an overall reduction and noted large variation from 2018 to 2019 in Used Motor Oil and Concrete. M. Gunn asked where they used motor oil came from, and R. Georgett said Walt's Equipment Service and that it is likely accumulated over time and collected in bulk. She continued that a number of sources in town are probably collecting items, and it's only reported when hauled away because reporting is done by the haulers. There was discussion regarding how the data is collected, calculated and reported as well as the lowering profitability for recycling haulers since specific items can't be exported for profit any longer.

## OLD BUSINESS -

**Recycling Goals for 2020:** W. Harrison asked if there were any corrections from the Committee, and there were no comments. **M. Gunn made a motion that was seconded by T. Rue to approve the Goals for 2020 that was unanimously carried with no objections or abstentions.** A. Castellano said we should add #4 re: composting to agenda going forward to ensure follow up.

**Recycling Education/Communication:** T. Rue said the draft flier distributed is a prototype for what we are looking at sending out with the tax mailer. He continued that his daughter helped by pulling samples he provided into a format with the maximum amount of information. T. Rue said the subcommittee was looking for more visuals to add and there are mark-ups on the document distributed to Committee members (see attached).



East Amwell  
Recycling flier 2-3-2020 markups.pdf

R. Georgett said it would be a 2-sided color Clean Communities (CC) flier, content needs to be validated and ensure it aligns to our Depot guidelines. She continued by reviewing the mark ups on the document, confirmed that it could include information from the township website hot tips as appropriate to reinforce key issues. R. Georgett said she received agreement from the CFO to cover 50% of the cost for the tax mailing under CC because this would be less costly than direct mailing the CC flier to all residents. A. Castellano said that is good because we get more space. R. Georgett said future fliers would be updated quarterly for distribution at the Depot, posted & available in the Township Office, the library, post office, etc. W. Harrison said quarterly fliers would be great because those who come to the Depot are low hanging fruit for this information. R. Georgett said that the purchase of a color printer for the quarterly CC fliers is being explored and would be less expensive over time than paying an external printer. A. Castellano asked if this is covered under CC because it's education and R. Georgett said yes, enforcement as well plus a few additional items can be printed for CC. T. Rue said we can add references to litter and add the Clean Communities logo. R. Georgett said the CC logo will be included and plastic bags, plastic cups, and straws are all major sources of litter. She continued pointing out the de-litter bug would also be included in this and used for other education/promotions as well. There was discussion regarding what kind of printer would be best and the cost of ink needs to be considered.

R. Georgett said the flier would need to be ready by end May/early June to go out with the tax mailer and the draft flier will be distributed to the committee. T. Rue will obtain the editable file for the flier from his daughter. Discussion continued regarding specific feedback on flier content, including – TREX would be a good focus for the back of the flier with pictures of what can be collected and emphasis on removing labels from amazon envelopes, Terra Cycle could be on the back in the future with pictures and information that each group of items needs to be brought in separately. Additional key topics discussed: recycling must be rinsed/clean, large plastic items such as broken lawn chairs are not acceptable, plastic buckets with a recycling triangle/symbol are acceptable and education on what the triangle & numbers mean.

A. Castellano said cartons with a foil liner such as soup boxes & some juice boxes can't be recycled and are garbage. R. Georgett said Republic has a great website with information regarding what is accepted and can be used to validate the flier information. M. Gunn pointed out inconsistencies on the draft flier needing correction. T. Rue said all committee members should put their changes on the draft flier and send it to R. Georgett so they can be incorporated into the flier. She continued saying

that we can also hire a professional with CC funds to do the flier layout. S. Kadlec said if the funds are available, we should have a professional do the layout and there was agreement among committee members. It was agreed that the draft is a good start.

R. Georgett said the committee needs to decide whether to proceed with an Earth Day event during Roadside clean up, and said this would facilitate using clean communities' funds because of the connection with litter. The sub-committee is suggesting setting up a few tables with education, games and give away items during/immediately following clean up. A. Castellano said there are some concerns regarding safety with sports event traffic/cars in the parking lot, and the effort needed to advertise it beyond the 40 or so people who come for road side clean up. She continued that due to the Color Run she is running on May 9, 2020, she would not have any time to committee to an Earth Day event. She continued that the Color Run has a large number of people who already come and this could be leveraged with a table for an Earth Day. There was discussion regarding pro and con of each opportunity.

**T. Rue made a motion that was seconded by S. Kadlec to participate in the Color Run on May 9, 2020 and it was carried with no objections or abstentions.** W. Harrison said we need a volunteer for this and S. Kadlec said she will help at the Color Run. A Castellano said Erica will be back next month and since she did it last year will probably help again. R. Georgett shared the ideas, material and resources available for this event and showed items she had collected from the Township basement. This will be added to the agenda next month.

**Recycle Coach (RC):** No comments

**Road Side Clean-Up April 18 update:** Chantal was not present to report. T. Rue said the dumpsters last year were too large and we need to make sure the right size is ordered. A. Castellano said she will prepare one message to Republic for equipment needed for both events, and R. Georgett will get the information to A. Castellano & Charlene Santos. S. Kadlec suggest we use give away items as a thank you for those who participate in Roadside clean up, and R. Georgett said there was also a suggestion to have roadside signs made up that people can put out saying "this road clean up by \_\_\_\_\_" as both acknowledge the work done and promote the event.

**Spring Clean-Up April 25 update:** A. Castellano said she reviewed W. Harrison's check list and will have Charlene Santos make arrangements with Republic for the equipment. She continued that community-based organizations who do fund raising through collection of specific items will attend Spring clean-up. The Rescue Squad will collect toys as well as other items and the school will collect clothing, which is right because our community should benefit from the event. A. Castellano said that Goodwill shall still have plenty to collect and a good benefit from the event. There was discussion regarding set up of the parking lot. A. Castellano said she'll inform the sport teams of the event on this date, there is a Lambertville baseball team using the field that has been approved by Parks and Recreation.

**Electronics Recycling:** R. Georgett said there have been two free resources identified who can come and collect electronics at a Depot. M. Gunn said we had agreed last month to do this but not when there is a County event. R. Georgett said the County has electronics collection on March 21, June 13 and September 26, 2020, so the committee had discussed doing it January 2021. A decision will be tabled for the next meeting.

**Clean Communities Program:** R. Georgett distributed the draft Clean Communities 2020 Program and asked the committee to review the material and provide feedback on items for expenditures listed on pages 5 and 6. She continued explaining how the program works and what are/are not acceptable activities are covered. W. Harrison asked if any items along the roadside was covered such as a washing machine dumped on the roadside. R. Georgett said no because this is not considered litter

unless it's part of a major clean up, such as tires. The committee will send feedback, ideas, questions and suggestions directly to R. Georgett.

**Foam Palace – maintenance:** T. Mathews was not present to report. A. Castellano said J. Silverthorn is creating a plan for maintenance of all Municipal buildings including the foam palace. She continued that there was vandalism to the shed in the ball field, someone broke into it and graffiti on the outside. J. Silverthorn will replace the lock and paint the outside.

**INVOICES:** None

**CORRESPONDENCE:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:** None

**OPEN TO PUBLIC – Seeing no members of the public present, M. Gunn made a motion seconded by T. Rue to close to the public that was carried unanimously with no objection or abstention.**

**OPEN TO COMMITTEE – No comment.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion was made by M. Gunn which was seconded by T. Rue and carried unanimously with no objections or abstentions to adjourn at 9:11 p.m.**

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Rosemary Georgett, Recycling Coordinator