

**EAST AMWELL TOWNSHIP
 RECYCLING COMMITTEE MINUTES
 REGULAR MEETING Via Zoom
 May 12, 2020 - TUESDAY, 7:30 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER AND STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Recycling Committee was called to order at 7:33 PM on May 12, 2020 as a virtual meeting held through Zoom 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, and a revised notice with the location change to a virtual Zoom meeting published on May 7, 2020 in 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 | X | X | X | | | | | | | |
| Alison Castellano | X | X | X | X | X | | | | | | | |
| Susan Kadlec | X | X | X | X | X | | | | | | | |
| Erica Johanson | - | - | E | X | X | | | | | | | |
| Tom Rue | X | X | X | X | E | | | | | | | |
| Mark Gunn | X | X | X | E | X | | | | | | | |
| Chantal Napoleon | X | E | X | X | X | | | | | | | |
| Tim Matthews | A | E | E | A | A | | | | | | | |

Others present: Coordinator, Rosemary Georgett, Township Committee/Mayor Rick Wolfe, Township Committee Member Mark Castellano

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC – E. Johanson made a motion that was seconded by M. Gunn to open to the public present that was carried with no objections or abstentions.

A. Castellano made a motion that was seconded by E. Johanson to close to the public that was carried with no objections or abstentions.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES - The minutes from the April 13, 2020 meeting were put forward and **R. Georgett made a motion that was seconded by A. Castellano to accept the minutes with minor edits that was carried with no objections or abstentions.**

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA –

- VIII. A. Correction to 6 grabbers purchased and
- B. Republic Services invoice for 2 dumpsters used at Roadside Clean Up \$383.94

REPORTS -

Depot Report: May 2020 – A. Castellano reviewed the Depot report which is attached. She said there was a tremendous turnover, went very smoothly, and everyone was very pleased. A. Castellano said there weren't a large number of cars but each car was packed full so there was a high volume collected. R. Wolfe said there was a lot of work for the volunteers, C. Napoleon attended and S. Kadlec was missed. A. Castellano said the shed is full and no more TREX plastic can be accepted.

She continued that C. Napoleon sorted a lot of plastic and as soon as Stop and Shop allows, it will be delivered to them. A. Castellano said there was a small amount of Terra Cycle and she will figure out how to manage this with the school closed.



Recycling Depot
Report for May 2020.pdf

DEPOT LEAD ASSIGNMENTS

| | | |
|----------------|--------------|-----------------------------|
| April 4, 2020 | S. Kadlec | Report out at April meeting |
| May 2, 2020 | A Castellano | Report out at May meeting |
| June 6, 2020 | M. Gunn | |
| July 4, 2020 | W. Harrison | |
| August 1, 2020 | | |

Township Committee Update: R. Wolfe said A. Castellano had mentioned painting and repair of the Foam Palace to him. He continued that the last he had heard the Committee was exploring a group of volunteers to do this and asked for an update. W. Harrison said the Recycling Committee was told the Township Committee had other plans that included this and, therefore, had not moved forward. R. Wolfe said there is no plan for the Foam Palace, only the Municipal Building. A. Castellano reminded everyone that these discussions were when Kevin Ostrander was the Township Liaison, and the idea was that J. Silverthorn would paint the Foam Palace along with other municipal buildings. There was further discussion regarding the background and purpose for painting and repair of the Foam Palace and W. Harrison summarized by stating that the primary goal was to make it safe until replacement was required. A. Castellano said a base coat of paint would be needed even if the idea to have a painting on the building happens. R. Wolfe said he agrees because we need that structure and should not let it deteriorate.

A Castellano said J. Silverthorn will probably want to fix around the windows as well. R. Wolfe said he will speak with J. Silverthorn and look into the painting, needed repairs and possibly some landscaping around the Foam Palace and will do what is needed to the building is around for a while. He continued saying he could attend future meetings since he was not commuting into New York at this time and to just let him know when. R. Wolfe said he is greatly appreciative of the work this Recycling Committee does.

Styrofoam Recycling: T. Rue was not present to report. A. Castellano said there is a lot of Styrofoam probably due to people having more items delivered and if the organization that takes our Styrofoam is closed, we may need to stop collecting it. R. Wolfe said he will email J. Silverthorn to check whether Styrofoam can be disposed of and will let the committee know.

TREX Recycling: C. Napoleon said she is following up with Stop and Shop as well as other places that would normally collect TREX and will let the committee know when they are open again. E. Johanson said that she can also drop off TREX at a location that is open if needed. R. Wolfe asked if C. Napoleon if she expects these drop off locations to open again soon and she replied that based on discussions with store employees, they are not anticipating this any time soon. R. Wolfe said he will check with J. Silverthorn regarding a place on township property, such as the Grit Yard, where it can be stored and if drop off locations will open again in 6 to 9 months maybe TREX can be collect & stored. E. Johanson said maybe the snack shack could be used, and R. Wolfe will follow up on this as well. There was some discussion regarding where to store TREX and E. Johanson said McCaffrey's has bins and is collecting it now. A. Castellano said Walmart also has a bin but C. Napoleon said that is not TREX.

OLD BUSINESS -

Recycling Education/Communication: R. Georgett said that the Recycling Flier is the only action and it's in the works with Hunterdon County graphics and printing services. She continued that a draft would be provided to the Committee before the June meeting, with edits provided so that a final version can be reviewed on June 9, 2020.

Recycle Coach (RC): R. Georgett said activity was up a bit with 13 resident interactions and 1 new subscriber and asked for any feedback from the committee. A. Castellano said to change it to indicate no TREX will be accepted for now and it was agreed to wait until R. Wolfe and J. Silverthorn determine whether there is a place for storage. A. Castellano will let R. Georgett know if there are any changes about Terra Cycle since it is not collected while the school is closed, including summer break. It was further agreed to hold on changing Styrofoam information pending feedback from J. Silverthorn.

Road Side Clean Up April 18 update: C. Napoleon said it was a success and most roads in the Township were covered. She continued that they had to monitor the dumpsters because cars were driving by looking to dump general items and that someone had put a TV in the dumpster. R. Wolfe said the Township is looking into getting signs to let the public know that they are on camera at the grit yard, municipal building and Clawson Park. He continued that there will be a \$500 fine for anyone illegally dumping. W. Harrison asked if the \$500 fine is in a Township Ordinance, and R. Wolfe said he will confirm this.

Spring Clean-Up update: A. Castellano said this is on target for June 13th and they are expecting a big turnout because many people are really clearing out. She continued that cars backing up into the road is a concern that might be addressed by extending the hours until 2 P.M. W. Harrison said this would mean changing hours with Republic as well as Good Will and maybe the volume can be handled within the current hours. S. Kadlec said extending the hours may be helpful because things are taking longer than before with social distancing. There was discussion regarding whether or not to extend the hours. W. Harrison said that the most efficient way to handle high volume is getting a fourth compactor and this includes another driver who would load it. R. Wolfe and A. Castellano said they will ask Republic about extending hours and/or get a fourth compactor to see what is available and the cost. R. Wolfe said there could be 150% more material coming in and less volunteers, so having more time could be needed.

R. Wolfe will ask J. Silverthorn to get a quote on costs for an additional compactor and the cost of extending hours so a final decision can be made regarding path forward. W. Harrison said the committee should make a motion and vote on the option to get additional compactor and extend hours so it is approved. There was some discussion regarding the budget center that pays for Spring Clean up and R. Wolfe said the current Recycling Committee budget is to cover waste clean up with \$2750 for garbage pick up. R. Georgett will follow up with J. Silverthorn on Republic and budget allocations.

R. Georgett made a motion that was seconded by W. Harrison to approve extending hours for and/or getting a fourth compactor for the Spring Clean Up as determined by A. Castellano who is running the event that was carried with no objections or abstentions.

Municipal Composting questionnaire: W. Harrison asked if there were comments or feedback on the survey and S. Kadlec asked where the composting material would go. W. Harrison said that wasn't determined yet because the questionnaire was to determine whether or not there is a need. C. Napoleon said the survey looks good. R. Georgett said that residents would be completing the survey

and she and C. Napoleon would create the survey to be posted on Township website and Facebook pages.

INVOICES: **A. Castellano made a motion seconded by S. Kadlec to approve one invoice for \$147.08 that was carried with no objection or abstention.** A. Castellano asked about the high cost of the grabbers and R. Georgett said there wasn't sufficient time for Amazon delivery of lesser cost grabbers after approval of the purchase and before the event. She continued that this was the best last-minute price from a local business.

A. Castellano made a motion seconded by M. Gunn to approve one invoice for \$383.97 that was carried with no objection or abstention. A. Castellano asked about the total amount of the Invoice asking why there was an old charge added to the quoted cost. R. Georgett said the amount that was over 30 days old was not related to Road Side Clean Up and needed to be subtracted from the amount approved for payment. A. Castellano said the P.O. also need to be corrected to "Road Side" clean up, not "Spring". R. Georgett said that she would make these changes before approving the P.O.

CORRESPONDENCE: R. Georgett said the email from Beeco.Green, a site about living without waste, asking if East Amwell would add a link to their website/guide to the Recycling Committee page. A. Castellano said as long as we can confirm that it is not a solicitation/sales pitch, that would be fine and there was no further comment from the committee.

NEW BUSINESS: None

OPEN TO PUBLIC – A. Castellano made a motion seconded by S. Kadlec to open to the public that was carried with no objections or abstentions.

Seeing no member of the public present, A. Castellano made a motion seconded by S. Kadlec to close to the public that was carried with no objection or abstention.

OPEN TO COMMITTEE – M. Gunn said that he will run the June Depot.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by M. Gunn which was seconded by A. Castellano and carried with no objections or abstentions to adjourn at 8:55 p.m.

Rosemary Georgett, Recycling Coordinator