

**EAST AMWELL TOWNSHIP  
 RECYCLING COMMITTEE MINUTES  
 REGULAR MEETING Via Zoom  
 June 9, 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 7:31 PM on June 9, 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 June 4, 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	7/79/2020	8/11/2020	9/08/2020	10/06/2020	11/10/2020	12/08/2020
Will Harrison	X	X	X	X	X	X						
Alison Castellano	X	X	X	X	X	X						
Susan Kadlec	X	X	X	X	X	X						
Erica Johanson	-	-	E	X	X	X						
Tom Rue	X	X	X	X	E	X						
Mark Gunn	X	X	X	E	X	X						
Chantal Napoleon	X	E	X	X	X	7:32						
Tim Matthews	A	E	E	A	A	A						

*Others present: Coordinator, Rosemary Georgett, Township Committee/Mayor Rick Wolfe*

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC** – With no members of the Public present, **T Rue made a motion that was seconded by S. Kadlec to close to the public that was carried with no objections or abstentions.**

**ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES** - The minutes from the May 12, 2020 meeting were put forward and A. Castellano **that was S. Kadlec accept the minutes with minor edits that was carried with no objections or abstentions.**

**ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA** – none

**REPORTS -**

**Depot Report: June 2020** – M. Gunn review the attached report indicating that there was a good level of activity and volunteers handled things very well. He continued that everyone wore face masks and that A. Castellano went back on Sunday afternoon to drop off cardboard and the dumpsters were overflowing. M. Gunn said he typically goes around 6 PM and A. Castellano said it’s not unusual to see that individuals have dumped items in appropriately after Depot hours. There was some discussion whether additional signage or a 3<sup>rd</sup> dumpster were needed. There was agreement that the signs being used are good but not being followed/read and also that the dumpsters are full, not overflowing, when items are properly placed into them. R. Wolfe said signs are being printed stating

“you are on camera” and this may help with the problem. He continued that he will speak with J. Silverthorn about this.



Depot Report June  
2020.docx

A. Castellano said the Grit Yard has been heavily used and the committee had previously discussed keeping it open longer, until 3:00, and opening it the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month as well. She continued that having the Grit Yard close at 12 Noon does not leave much time for those who work during the week to bring items over. M. Gunn said the first Saturday is easy because the Depot Commander handles it and covering the third Saturday needs to be worked out. There was discussion regarding the need for this and how this could be managed

**A motion was made by M. Gunn and seconded by A. Castellano to keep the Grit Yard open until 3 PM the first Saturday of the month with the Depot leader responsible that was carried with no objections or abstentions.**

There was discussion regarding also opening the third Saturday of the month and R. Wolfe said this was discussed at Township Committee and the public was told the Grit Yard would be opened the first and third Saturday of the month. He continued that it was communicated that during winter months of December, January and February, it may not be open on the third Saturday. R. Wolfe continued that if the Recycling Committee will not be covering the third Saturday, the Township Committee will need to decide who will do this. Committee members agreed that they would help with this and it was agreed that the third Saturday would be tracked along with the Depot Commander list at Committee meetings. R. Georgett said that if there is a month when there is no one to cover the Grit Yard during a given month, she will advise Krista Parsons, Acting Municipal Clerk, to ask for assistance from the Township Committee and/or Recycling Volunteers could also be engaged.

W. Harrison said he will lead the July depot and M. Gunn said he will be there also. A. Castellano said that it is heavy work and difficult to keep a mask on when hot outside, and asked if the Committee should consider allowing residents to get out of their cars with a mask any time soon. R. Wolfe said he enjoys helping at the Depot and the team can reconsider this as well as wearing of masks as the date approaches.

### **DEPOT LEAD & GRIT YARD OPENING ASSIGNMENTS**

June 6, 2020	M. Gunn	Report out at June meeting
June 20, 2020 Grit Yard	A Castellano	
July 4, 2020	W. Harrison	
July 18, 2020 Grit Yard	W. Harrison	
August 1, 2020	S. Kadlec	
August 15, 2020 Grit Yard		
September 5, 2020		
September 19, 2020 Grit Yard		
October 3, 2020	T. Rue	
October 17, 2020 Grit Yard		

**Township Committee Update:** R. Wolfe said he was looking at the Foam Palace and spoke with J. Silverthorn about this and will follow up again this Friday. He continued saying the big item at this week’s Township Committee meeting is the Noise Ordinance that was introduced in March and he’s interested to hear what members of the public have to say.

**Styrofoam Recycling:** T. Rue said he went Sunday and saw the large amount of Styrofoam collected. He wasn't able to pack it but will do so this week. T. Rue said he called the Styrofoam collection company, they are open and there will probably be two trucks worth of material. A. Castellano asked if we are supposed to take Styrofoam peanuts and T. Rue said no. E. Johanson said that popcorn packers take them for reuse and she will bring peanuts to them for recycling.

**TREX Recycling:** C. Napoleon said she has made numerous calls to find stores taking collections and will continue to follow up on this. She continued that TREX is still being collected at the Depot and is building up. C. Napoleon said we need to move material out of the Foam Palace and she is bringing small bags to places like Shop Rite who take plastic even though it's not for TREX. E. Johanson asked if it would be OK to store TREX in the Snack Shack, and A. Castellano we really need to find a place that will take a large amount of material and TREX hasn't been very helpful. She continued that residents are being told that TREX is not being taken at this time.

## **OLD BUSINESS -**

**Recycling Education/Communication:** R. Georgett said the Clean Communities flier is in final draft, needs to be finalized this week because the interim tax mailing will be sent out by the end of June, and needs Township Committee review on Thursday. She continued that a second mailing will be sent in the Fall so there will be another opportunity to send an update flier. R. Wolfe said that the Township Committee does not need to review the flier, they only need to review items for political or inappropriate content and this flier is fine. A. Castellano reviewed several edits to the flier, such as adding reference to TREX and Terra Cycle, the newly agreed Grit Yard details, and to focus more on what people are not doing properly rather than reiterate what they are doing well. She continued that examples are to bring shredded paper in clear plastic bags and flatten cardboard boxes. C. Napoleon said we should add "caps on" bottles/containers as well. A. Castellano suggested naming items can can/should be looked up using Recycle Coach such as plastic flower pots, egg cartons and there was discussion about local Garden Centers also accepting these pots. Egg cartons are taken by local farmers and the food pantry. These edits were agreed by the Committee and R. Georgett will have the changes made.

**Recycle Coach (RC):** C. Napoleon said the TREX information should be updated to temporarily remove the Depot collection and A. Castellano said we should include a short list of stores where people can take it on their own. A. Castellano said Styrofoam collection can continue and asked if hyperlinks can be added to RC. C. Napoleon said the information for Concrete and Brick needs to be corrected as well and R. Georgett will have it corrected. R. Wolfe and R. Georgett both offered to contact resources to get this information if needed.

**Spring Clean-Up update:** A. Castellano said everything is set and the cost was too high for getting an additional packer. She continued that instead two additional roll off dumpsters were ordered to take any extra items. A. Castellano said there are plenty of volunteers coming to help, masks will be worn as appropriate and the Rescue squad will have between 6 & 8 attending to collect and help out as needed.

**Municipal Composting questionnaire:** R. Georgett said this hasn't been done and tabled to next meeting.

**INVOICES:** A. Castellano made a motion seconded by S. Kadlec to approve one invoice for \$141.00 that was carried with no objection or abstention.

**NEW BUSINESS:** A. Castellano said J. Silverthorn received a call from the fire inspector to come for the 2020 inspection. She continued that works needs to be done regarding clearing out items and

plastic is a concern. A. Castellano said there is a lot of TREX and C. Napoleon has been searching for places that can take a large amount of plastic but there are none. She continued that last time they dropped off 200 lbs at Stop and Shop but no one is taking large quantities now. A. Castellano asked that if anyone is going someplace that will take TREX plastic, please pick up a few bags from the Foam Palace and bring them with you. A. Castellano said regarding Terra Cycle, the school is closed so it can't be taken there and Sharon Ernst has confirmed it can't be taken over until school opens in the fall. She continued that the school will be cleaned and sanitized over the summer. A. Castellano continued that some items may need to be thrown away if it can't be cleared out before the Fire Inspection. However, there are some items that can be boxed up and sent it and Ms. Ernst is getting information on this. C. Napoleon said the recycling center in Trenton may accept Terra Cycle items and A. Castellano said she will find out what they are taking. E. Johanson volunteers to take it to the recycling center in Trenton.

**OPEN TO PUBLIC – Seeing no member of the public present, M. Gunn made a motion seconded by S. Kadlec to close to the public that was carried 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 with no objections or abstentions to adjourn at 8:43 p.m.**

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Rosemary Georgett, Recycling Coordinator