

**EAST AMWELL TOWNSHIP
RECYCLING COMMITTEE MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
September 8, 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 7:37 PM on September 8, 2020 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	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
Alison Castellano	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
Susan Kadlec	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
Erica Johanson	-	-	E	X	X	X	X	*	*			
Tom Rue	X	X	X	X	E	X	A	A	X			
Mark Gunn	X	X	X	E	X	X	X	X	X			
Chantal Napoleon	X	E	X	X	X	7:32	A	*	E			
Tim Matthews	A	E	E	A	A	A	A	A	A			

Others present: Coordinator, Rosemary Georgett

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC – Seeing no members of the public present M. Gunn made a motion that was seconded by S. Kadlec to open to the public present that was carried with no objections or abstentions.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES - The minutes from the August 11, 2020 meeting were put forward and **M. Gunn made a motion that was seconded by S. Kadlec to accept the minutes without edit that was carried with no objections or abstentions.**

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA – None

REPORTS -

Depot Report: September 2020 – M. Gunn provided a written report, which is attached, and summarized as follows. M. Gunn said it was a light Depot day but there was a lot in the dumpsters when he arrived on Saturday morning. W. Harrison suggested that the committee ask the Mayor and Township Committee if they would support monitoring those who put things in the dumpsters outside of Depot hours. A. Castellano said that Krista Parsons, Acting Municipal Clerk, told her that there was a line of cars when the dumpsters were delivered on Friday which is not surprising, however one vehicle was a pick-up truck with PA license plates. She continued that another pick-up truck with NJ plates also came and was helping them unload into the dumpster. A. Castellano said that Krista also said on Monday morning there were rolled up rugs on the ground near where the dumpsters were located, and so Republic may have removed them. M. Gunn said there was no room in the dumpsters for the rugs because they were completely filled.

There was discussion that it isn't unusual that items be left outside of Depot hours, however, there is currently no consequence for this "dumping" and if it is against an Ordinance, a fine may be imposed. It was further agreed that having the dumpsters available all weekend is a service to residents but some, including non-residents, seem to be taking advantage. W. Harrison asked for a motion to request that the Township Committee view video footage of this dumping, and R. Georgett said maybe recommending an escalation path including a written warning prior to issuing a fine immediately.

A motion was made by M. Gunn and seconded by E. Johanson to escalate the issue to the Township Committee asking for advice on how to handle the issue of improper items being left, dumpsters being overfilled, and non-residents dumping items into the Depot dumpsters that was carried with no objection or abstention. A. Castellano said that Mayor Wolfe will probably be very interested given that he has been volunteering at the Depot frequently and will want to follow up.

A Castellano said that notices were issued regarding once again accepting TREX, a lot was received, and that Terra-Cycle would only be accepted at the Depot, not the school. She continued that there was one youth volunteer who was very good and sorted and weighed 69 lbs of plastic. A. Castellano said she brought it to Stop and Shop, and so the shed is in good shape with no TREX and very little Terra Cycle. She continued that it is more effective to only collect these items at the Depot and not through boxes around town because it can be sorted, weighted and sent out on Depot day. A. Castellano said there is random plastic showing up in the shed periodically and so the code should be changed again, given only to Depot leads. R. Georgett will ask DPW to make the change.

W. Harrison asked T. Rue if he was still able to lead Depot in October, and T. Rue said yes and that he would open the Grit Yard on October 17th as well. S. Kadlec asked if the Grit Yard would be opened the third Thursday year around, and A. Castellano said we had agreed to do so through the fall but probably not November through January.

DEPOT LEAD & GRIT YARD OPENING ASSIGNMENTS

September 5, 2020	M. Gunn	Report provided at meeting
September 19, 2020 Grit Yard	M. Gunn	
October 3, 2020	T. Rue	
October 17, 2020 Grit Yard	T. Rue	
November 10, 2020	W. Harrison	
December 5, 2020		
January 2, 2021		
??? Grit Yard		

Township Committee Update – No one present.

Styrofoam Recycling: T. Rue said he has not checked since the last large collection was sent out. A. Castellano and M. Gunn said there is some Styrofoam, maybe half a truckload. T. Rue said he would address this in the next week or so.

TREX Recycling: C. Napoleon was not present. A. Castellano said TREX was accepted at the Depot and there was a lot brought in. A. Castellano said the labor was in place to handle incoming plastic, even though there is not technically a group signed up for this bench. She continued that C. Napoleon is working with the Boy Scouts and they will likely take on the current bench. A. Castellano said the bench has been place in Clawson Park gazebo, looks very nice and will be

dedicated at Friday Night in the Park on September 11th to Iona English and a gentleman who worked with her when Clawson Park was established.

OLD BUSINESS -

Municipal Composting questionnaire: R. Georgett said the survey results indicate 90 to 100 residents are interested in attending a free workshop on composting and/or participating in a pilot program. E. Johanson said she will coordinate with Mike Mills of Ag. Advisory to kick off designing a system and review with Township Committee. A. Kadlec said if this were to begin and collections were taken at the Depot, it could be quite successful and there was further discussion regarding how large or small it may be. A. Castellano said that if the right people, like Erika, are involved, it may be successful and this is giving it a start. All committee members were in agreement that assigning Erika to work with Mike Mills to move this forward and report out to the committee at future meetings are the next steps.

Terra-Cycle Food Storage Container Collection: A. Castellano said the school has agreed to add this to the Terra Cycle program, and she has worked with Sharon Ernst to add this and generally update the Terra Cycle list. Food storage containers will be collected at the Depot and only plastic containers, not glass which can go into regular recycling, will be accepted. M. Gunn said that he handed out around 30 updated Terra Cycle fliers at the Depot. A. Castellano said her only concern is having the space to keep containers and she will monitor this. She also explained the process for shipping items to Terra-Cycle.

INVOICES: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

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.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by M. Gunn which was seconded by A. Castellano and carried with no objections or abstentions to adjourn at 8:14 p.m.

Rosemary Georgett, Recycling Coordinator