

**EAST AMWELL TOWNSHIP
RECYCLING COMMITTEE MINUTES
FEBRUARY 27, 2019 - TUESDAY, 7:30 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER AND STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

The rescheduled regular meeting of the Recycling Committee was called to order at 7:30 PM on February 27, 2019 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 rescheduled regular meeting pursuant to Notice as published in the February, 21, 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 February 19, 2019.

2019 ATTENDANCE (X- present; E – excused; A – absent)

Recycling Committee Member	1/08/19	2/27/19	3/12/19	4/09/19	5/14/19	6/11/19	7/09/19	8/13/19	9/10/19	10/08/19	11/12/19	12/10/19
Will Harrison	X	X										
Alison Castellano	X	X										
Ron O’Reilly	X	A										
Erica Johanson	X*	E										
Tom Rue	E	X										
Mark Gunn	X	X										
Chantal Napoleon	E	A										
Kevin Ostrander	A	X										

*Others present: Coordinator, Rosemary Georgett *attended virtually, Olivia Ostrander, Youth Member*

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC – Seeing no members of the public present **A. Castellano made a motion that was seconded by M. Gunn to close to the public. All members carried unanimously with no objections or abstentions.**

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES - The minutes from the January 8, 2019 meeting were put forward and **A. Castellano made a motion that was seconded by M. Gunn to accept the minutes with minor edits that was unanimously carried with no objection and T. Rue abstained.**

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA –

X. D. Road Side Clean Up Lead

REPORTS -

Youth Report: O. Ostrander reported that Ms. Ernst will have a spot on EATV regarding TerraCycle and kids coming to help at the Depot.

Depot Report: February 2019 – M. Gunn distributed a written Depot report and said that when he came back on Sunday afternoon the dumpster was over full at 120%. He continued that there was no paper or co-mingling. M. Gunn said people were putting items into the dumpsters from all sides, and he had a resident argue that we can’t co-mingle. M. Gunn suggested that we need signs on both sides of the dumpster about co-mingling because everyone can’t see the sign we now have in front of the dumpster. A. Castellano said we should put a sign on the back side of the dumpster as well. There was discussion regarding whether this is a continuous problem, the fact that in the past we did not co-mingle which may be contributing to the misunderstanding.

Discussions continued regarding whether additional signs are needed, whether it was the right way to spend budget funds, and if repositioning the sign would help resolve the issue. It was agreed that the Committee will monitor this, and determine whether another sign is needed.

A. Castellano said Ms. Ernst has created a “greenie” award made out of TerraCycle materials that is given to children for taking part in the Depot and involvement in other environmental programs. She continued that children are signed up for the April and May Depots to cover TerraCycle, however what we need is kids to go home and talk with their parents about coming to the Depot. A. Castellano said engaging the parents is key because they bring the children. T. Rue asked if we had a volunteer for the February Depot and A. Castellano said yes Nancy Cunningham. M. Gunn said he will be there as well.

W. Harrison said he needs help for clean-up day, and A. Castellano and T. Rue agreed to help. W. Harrison said the volunteer list is too short & we need to solicit more volunteers. Discussion continued by identifying Depot leads for April through July as noted below.

DEPOT LEAD ASSIGNMENTS

January 5, 2019	W. Harrison	Reported at January 8 meeting
February 2, 2019	M. Gunn	Reported at February 27 meeting
March 2, 2019	T. Rue	
April 6, 2019	W. Harrison	
May 4, 2019	K. Ostrander	
June 11, 2019	T. Rue	
July 6, 2019	M. Gunn	

Township Committee Update: K. Ostrander said that T. Stahl is retiring effective April 1st. He continued that there was no push back at Township Committee regarding the Recycling budget. K. Ostrander said that there was discussion regarding merging Green Team and Environmental Commission, and it was clear that Environmental Commission will stand. He continued that there will be more focus on coordination across Board and Committees as well as a focus on getting grants. There are certain grants only the Environmental Commission can go after. He concluded that additional volunteers are needed for the Green Team, and we are moving toward more collaboration across teams.

Environmental Commission Report: T. Rue said there were two meetings since the Recycling Committee last met, and at this point he was not re-appointed to the Environmental Commission. K. Ostrander said he will follow up regarding T. Rue’s appointment and expects the appointment and liaison role for Recycling will be ongoing. T. Rue said the Planning Board has a new Chair Gail Glashoff. He continued that the residential well testing program will be from April 1 to 12, 2019 and kits are available at the Township office. T. Rue said that two new chemicals will be included in the water test for homes; however the majority of the issues with these chemicals appear to be in South New Jersey. K. Ostrander said the test will be required for home sales across the State and it costs a few hundred dollars. T. Rue continued that we have 1774 households in East Amwell and very few are taking the test, so maybe we should be pushing it. There was further discussion regarding certain materials and thresholds present in East Amwell water including arsenic and Radon.

K Ostrander said there was some discussion at the Township Committee meeting regarding stream sampling near the Golf Course, where there was some run off. T. Rue said that the Environmental Commission identified Joe Angelone as a potential chair, and there was discussion regarding the fact that the Mayor appoints the Environmental Commission Chair.

T. Rue continued that the NRI, National Resources Inventory, is an environmental resource directory that municipalities may wish to establish. He continued by saying that Kingwood Township has one created in 2004 that is a good example, and mentioned various items it contains. T. Rue said that with climate changes and other environmental issues there are regulations coming and organizations that have this resource and data in place will be ahead of the game.

K. Ostrander and O. Ostrander left the meeting at 7:30.

TREX Recycling: A. Castellano said the second bench is for Kirkpatrick Church and should be delivered in a few weeks. She continued that the DPW will get the next bench, and then another bench can't be requested until July because you can only submit for a bench every six months. T. Rue said Fitzpatrick Church is continuing to help even though their bench collection is complete. A. Castellano said Living Waters Church will get the bench after DPW. W. Harrison asked if we should stop or continue to collect plastic for TREX after DPW is complete. A. Castellano said we should continue to collect because the same "entity" can only submit every six months, and Living Waters is a different entity from DPW/East Amwell Township. She continued that the current entity is Kirkpatrick Church. The committee agreed that we'll continue to collect and store TREX plastic for whatever entity is sponsoring the current bench.

OLD BUSINESS -

Update of Ordinance – Depot charge for Trucks, Tires: W. Harrison asked if the changes were ready and R. Georgett read the recommended Ordinance Update as follows:

**TOWNSHIP OF EAST AMWELL
GENERAL LEGISLATION – SOLID WASTE
ORDINANCE 19-02**

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE SOLID WASTE CHAPTER 120 ARTICLE 1
ENTITLED "CLEAN-UP DAY" OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF EAST
AMWELL TO CHANGE THE FEE FOR TRAILERS AND TRUCKS AND EXCLUDE
CERTAIN ITEMS

BE IT ORDAINED by the East Amwell Recycling Committee as follows:

SECTION 120. Subsection 120-2 entitled "Fee" is hereby amended and supplemented as follows:

120-2. The fee for the permit shall be \$15 for a car, \$25 for an SUV or other large-capacity passenger vehicle, such as a minivan, and \$35 for a pickup truck. *Trailers and trucks over one ton will have a fee between \$25.00 and \$75.00 priced at the discretion of the Township Representative. Tires must be off the rim, and first five (5) tires are included in the fee for a paid vehicle. Beginning with the sixth (6) tire, there is an addition cost of \$2.00 per tire.*

SECTION 120. Subsection 120-3 entitled "Exclusions" is hereby deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

120-3. Wooden objects over four (4) inches thick and four (4) feet long by four (4) feet wide may be rejected at the discretion of the Township Representative.

Discussion followed regarding how decisions would be made within the range for trailers and trucks and it was agreed that past practice would be followed. T. Rue asked if wanted to say under 120-3 wooden objects over the stated size will be rejected, and W. Harrison said there may be times when an item was acceptable and this provides the discretion to accept it. A. Castellano asked if we should limited the number of times an individual can drop off, and it was agreed that since you pay each time you come we would limit this. Also multiple drop offs mean items are being cleaned up in the township which is a goal of the program.

A motion was made by M. Gunn and seconded by A. Castellano to approve the Ordinance Updates for referral to the Township Committee that was unanimously carried with no objection or abstention.

W. Harrison instructed that the updated Ordinance be provided to the Township committee according to Township procedures. R. Georgett will move this forward per Township procedures.

Spring Newsletter: A. Castellano said that Mayor Wolfe is not interested in spending money on a newsletter that is read once and discarded. She continued that there are Township residents that would not see information if it was only posted on the website, and we want to reach all residents. A. Castellano suggested that a postcard to each household pointing people to the website for information or something similar to a postcard is an alternative to be considered. W. Harrison said he likes the postcard idea, and other members agreed. R. Georgett asked about using a refrigerator magnet rather than postcard, and there was discussion that the cost would be much higher and require an envelope further adding to cost. A. Castellano asked if historically the newsletter has been a joint venture with the Environmental Commission, do we need to advise them of a change. M. Gunn asked who would design the postcard, and it was agreed that A. Castellano and R. Georgett would do this and inform the Environmental Commission. There wasn't sufficient time before publication for T. Rue to do so at the next Environmental Commission meeting.

A motion was made by M. Gunn and seconded by A. Castellano to discontinue the Spring Newsletter and replace it with a postcard that was unanimously carried with no abstention or objection.

VIP/Website Articles and Content: Items to be included are Depot Co-Mingle notification, Water Test Kit Availability, and save the dates for Spring Clean-up & Road Side Clean-up. R. Georgett said the March VIP deadline had passed and this will be for the April edition.

Recycle Coach: R. Georgett said that she and A. Castellano had met with Recycle Coach and reviewed a "mock up" of this application for our website. She continued by sharing some of the details that will be listed, and A. Castellano explained that Recycle Coach has an App which will be linked through the East Amwell website with Township specific recycling content. There was some discussion regarding this being a no cost service, already being used by Hunterdon County and final details are being sorted so it should be live shortly.

Styrofoam: T. Rue said it was recently cleaned out, and no other updates. W. Harrison said we should reinforce that the styrofoam needs to come in clean. T. Rue said the greater concern is about contaminated items, and W. Harrison said we should use good judgement and reject materials when appropriate. There was further discussion regarding items that come in contaminated and those that are exposed to rain after arriving, and that we need to sort through both. A. Castellano said the cost for DPW related to Styrofoam collection and delivery is approximately \$150. T. Rue agreed and A. Castellano said that this is the only recycling activity that costs the Township money.

Bale Twine: Defer to next meeting.

Foam Palace: Defer to next meeting. It was noted that the new key pad lock works well. W. Harrison repaired the door and will return the hardware purchased by R. O'Reilly to him. The payment to R. O'Reilly will be voided, and W. Harrison donated the items he purchased.

Invoices: A. Castellano **made a motion that was seconded by T. Rue to approve one invoice for \$94.58 that was unanimously carried with no objection or abstention. The invoice for R. O'Reilly of \$19.09 will be voided.**

CORRESPONDENCE –

Ringo's Grange: A. Castellano said the Grange staff has funds and wanted to purchase a Zero Waste box for the recycling of alkaline batteries. She continued that everyone understands the need to recycle batteries, and told the Grange staff that they would need to take care of the work associated with recycling batteries at the Depot explaining all that is involved and they declined. A. Castellano said single use batteries can't be recycling the same way rechargeable ones can at Staples, etc.

Color Run: This was an FYI that the Environmental Commission will be giving away seeding trees. A. Castellano asked to keep this on the March agenda.

Spring Clean-up: A. Castellano asked if we can separate clothing from the Good Will collection and let the school collect and take it since they already have a clothing shed. A. Castellano said she will have children from the school with parents to man it, and W. Harrison said he would be concerned that if we take clothing items away from Good Will it could open the door to intercepting other items as well which we do not want to do. A. Castellano said can we have Girl Scouts & Boy Scouts collect clothing because they get funds for it? W. Harrison said he wants to make sure that clothing is not too large a portion of what Good Will collects, and T. Rue said we should notify them if we decide to do this. There was further discussion regarding whether this could create a problem and we don't want to hard feelings from those donating items or from Good Will.

A. Castellano said she will ensure resources to cover this and asked what other members felt. R. Georgett felt that we should collect for East Amwell first and doing this was low risk, and A. Castellano said the clothing collection gives the school a few thousand dollars a year. It was agreed that clothing was a small enough portion of what we collect for Good Will, and we should do what benefits East Amwell Township first while maintaining good relationships with partners like Good Will. A. Castellano will coordinate this and ensure there are no issues.

There was discussion regarding the article that the European Union is banning single use plastics, and this is being implemented at the Sourland Mountain Festival this year as well. It was agreed that minimizing or eliminating these items, and going back to reusable items is good for all.

A Castellano asked why we received the Recycling Inspection form regarding Dunkin Donuts, and R. Georgett said that we always receive copies of inspections that do not pass and noted that the inspection was from last July. A. Castellano said she has added all dates for Hunterdon County recycling events to the Township website.

NEW BUSINESS –

Zero Waste Boxes through TerraCycle: A. Castellano said TerraCycle make these Zero Waste boxes which you purchase, fill with specific products, and return to them to be recycled. She continued that the purchase price of a box includes the cost to mail it back, and said caps are a good example. W. Harrison asked if it was same company as school uses, and A. Castellano said it's the same company but a different division. A. Castellano said there are Zero Waste boxes available for

plastic caps, alkaline batteries, office supplies (plastic tape dispensers, scissors, staplers, etc), glue sticks & tubes, candy wrappers, coffee capsules, and plastic cups which are all possibilities for us. She continued that there is another company mentioned on the TerraCycle website that also does recycling of batteries. A. Castellano said we would get a ton of glue containers from the school.

M. Gunn asked who would collect & manage this, and A. Castellano said it would go through the Depot. She continued that the costs for caps are a small box \$79.00, medium box \$125.00, or large box \$187.00 and this may be eligible for Clean Communities funds. T. Rue and W. Harrison both said caps would be a good first item, and A. Castellano agree because they're going in the trash now including what comes to TerraCycle. R. Georgett said caps could be covered under Clean Communities because they are a litter problem. A. Castellano said this is also an excellent education opportunity, and she is organizing with TerraCycle to do an educational presentation at the school for school folks and all township residents. T. Rue said once we get started people will understand and education will be ongoing.

A motion was made by M. Gunn and seconded by T. Rue to obtain a large Zero Waste box for caps at a cost of \$187.00 that was unanimously carried with no abstentions or objections. A. Castellano will make a flier for the Depot and website. W. Harrison said keep this on the agenda for future meetings. He continued that there may be items we could do ourselves and should explore items that may be covered under Clean Communities. A Castellano will find out if they will give us tonnage for this.

Clean Communities Program for East Amwell: Defer to the next meeting.

Delaware River Clean Up: Defer to the next meeting.

OPEN TO PUBLIC – Seeing no members of the public present **R. Georgett made a motion that was seconded by A. Castellano to close to the public that was unanimously carried with no objection or abstention.**

OPEN TO COMMITTEE – No items presented.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by A. Castellano and seconded by T. Rue that was unanimously carried with no objection or abstention to adjourn at 9:20 p.m.

Rosemary Georgett, Recycling Coordinator