



RECYCLING Minutes

January 9, 2019

Submitted by Claire Anderson

Attendance: Claire Anderson, Edgar Garcia, Mark Stulbaum, Louise Palagano, Oliver Young, Nick Joanow

Call to Order: 7:10 pm

Approval of minutes-Dec 12, 2018-There were a couple of typos, Claire will correct and re-send to Louise. Otherwise approved.

A. Brookdale Gardens - No report.

B. Recycling at the Schools – At the January 2nd meeting of the Board of Education no liaison to the Recycling Committee was chosen. Councilman Joanow wrote to the school superintendent to request that Michael Heller be appointed since he was re-elected to the Board. Louise asked the new president of the Board, Jill Fishman, and the superintendent when the appointment will occur. Michael Heller was not able to attend tonight because he had to attend the Home & School meeting at Carteret School. Louise asked Michael to find out why they aren't recycling co-mingled at Carteret. Louise sent e-mails to Berkeley School about the breakfast program, but hasn't gotten a reply. On Jan. 7 she asked the Health Dept to schedule a meeting with the school. Mya from the Health Dept. said she would like someone from the Recycling Committee to be at the meeting. Nick said he was interested in attending.

Greener Bloomfield completed a Green Team report showing what the schools recycle. A number of schools mentioned using BERT plugs; no one knew what they were, google reported they are energy efficient plugs. Louise will ask the principal at Oakview how much paper each classroom recycles. Nick thinks competition between classrooms is productive. There was a meeting at the High School for representatives from other Bloomfield schools to discuss what they were doing to recycle.

C. Upcoming Events – Louise sent an e-mail to Susan Hebert on December 19th about the Earth Day celebration on April 28th and about Eva Kunkura speaking, but she didn't receive a response. She will ask Nick to get back to Susan.

D. Digester Pilot Project – No change.

E. Other –Mark asked about the recycling containers in town and wanted to know if we were getting our share of the profits. Louise will check on this. She also stated that Anthony decided not to apply for a grant to place recycling containers in town; he was afraid it might be too difficult to maintain them. Louise would like to recycle more items such as using the clothing bin at the DPW yard. Second Chance which recycles used toys was suggested and encouraging the schools to recycle used markers and dry erase markers also; there are 3 schools that already do that. Two township residents called Louise and said they would like to be involved in recycling activities, they can be contacted when they are needed. Steve Broom called to find out what Shop-Rite does with plastic bags and suggested that the township recycle them. Louise contacted Shop-Rite about that and she was referred to Wakefern in Elizabeth. She spoke to the sustainability coordinator who told her they have their own recovery center to recycle the bags. Bloomfield wouldn't have the same resources to recycle the bags as Shop-Rite has. Nick thought it would be interesting to see Wakefern's operation in Elizabeth. The newest Buzz just came out along with a new recycling schedule. There is money available for a NJ Clean Communities Event such as cleaning litter in a park or an activity maybe with another community group. Nick suggested maybe each elementary school could clean up around their school. Someone called to complain that a newer housing complex, Avalon Bay, is not recycling; Louise will look into it. Another person called in to ask about the minutes of the recycling committee meetings; Louise will start posting the minutes. Louise will be absent for the 2/13 meeting; she would like us to meet without her. The meeting schedule for 2019 has been set up; Louise realized that the October meeting is on Yom Kippur. It will probably be cancelled or combined with the Sept meeting.

Meeting adjourned: 8:10pm.

The next meeting of the Bloomfield Recycling Committee will be held on Wed., February 13, 2019 at 7pm on the 2nd floor of the Police Law Enforcement Building.