

**RAMSEY RECYCLING COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING, THURSDAY, MARCH 2, 2017**

The regular meeting of the Ramsey Recycling Committee was called to order by Mr. Smith, Recycling Coordinator, at 7:30 p.m., Thursday, March 2, 2017. Also present were Mr. Kehoe, Mr. Ranzi, Mr. Rutkowski, Mr. Schumacher, Ms. Weber, Committee members, Mr. Weber, Council Liaison, and Mrs. Dey, Secretary. Mr. Barrow was absent.

Mr. Smith announced that this meeting is being held in accordance with the Sunshine Laws of the State of New Jersey. Public notice of this meeting was published in the legal ads section of both the BERGEN RECORD and the RIDGEWOOD NEWS on Friday, December 30, 2016.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN

Mr. Smith conducted the yearly election. Ms. Weber nominated Mr. Ranzi as Chairman, seconded by Mr. Schumacher. There were no further nominations. Mr. Rutkowski nominated Mr. Kehoe as Vice-Chairman, seconded by Mr. Schumacher. There were no further nominations. Both nominations were unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon motion by Mr. Kehoe, seconded by Mr. Schumacher, the minutes of the September 1, 2016 meeting were approved as received. There was no meeting in December.

ACTIVITY REPORTS (OLD/NEW BUSINESS)

RECYCLING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

New members are needed for the Recycling Committee. There is a freshman at Ramsey High School who was suggested for the committee.

RECYCLING CENTER REVIEW

Mr. Smith distributed copies of the 2017 Ramsey Recycling Guide. The Recycling Center will be open on Monday nights, beginning in April. The covered dumpster for tires is the newest addition to the center. Mr. Schumacher suggested putting cracked stone or crushed gravel around the metals dumpster. Paving the area was previously discussed. Mr. Kehoe proposed putting a suggestion box at the Recycling Center. The website is another way to learn about what is happening at the Recycling Center. It continues to be updated through the efforts of Mrs. Dey and Mr. Smith. Committee members are welcome to make suggestions for information to be included on the site. It was noted that Ramsey residents can sign up for e-mail alerts through the borough's website. All new residents receive a recycling container. It was suggested that

the borough go to the next larger size. Nancy Boone will be asked if more recycling containers are needed at the Farmers' Market.

REVIEW OF RECYCLING

The borough is once again able to accept thin plastic bags at the Recycling Center. Two large fifty gallon barrels with lids have been set up for the collection of thin plastic bags only, including supermarket plastic shopping bags, newspaper plastic sleeves, and dry cleaning clear plastic bags. Black plastic bags will not be accepted. Shop-Rite, for example, accepts the supermarket plastic bags and brings them to its recycling center. Items such as yogurt containers can be recycled curbside. Newspaper/paper, cardboard, and aluminum are all positives for the borough, especially cardboard. The borough receives nothing for glass. The borough will pick up electronic waste curbside for seniors or for all residents if an item weighs over one hundred pounds. The borough's five-year contract for curbside recycling is for dual stream. Mr. Kehoe asked about the transfer fee which is paid to the county. Mr. Smith will check on that amount. Mr. Kehoe suggested that a recycling summary be prepared for the borough residents so that they understand the financial value of recycling. Mr. Smith is working on the tonnage report. The second request for information has been mailed to borough businesses. All businesses are required to respond. A summons is issued for non-compliance. Regarding the Prescription Drug Take-Back program, a permanent collection box is now at the Police Station.

SHREDDING DAY

There will be three shredding days in 2017. The first one is scheduled for Saturday, May 6th, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Participants will be limited to three boxes. Atlantic Coast Fibers provides one truck free of charge. Two trucks will be available for the May event and the borough will pay for the second truck. The county is giving the borough a shredding day for free in July.

GRINDING OF BRANCHES AND LEAVES

Mr. Smith noted that the 2016 leaf pick-up went well, at a cost of approximately \$100,000. Environmental Renewal has 100 cubic yard and 120 cubic yard trucks enabling them to almost keep up with leaf removal in the borough. The newest trucks shred the leaves. Mr. Kehoe suggested that Mahwah be contacted to ascertain what they do with their leaves. Perhaps the borough can work with Mahwah and save some money. It was noted that Clean-Up Day, sponsored by the Environmental Commission, is scheduled for Earth Day, Saturday, April 22nd.

RECYCLING COOPERATION WITH THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Eighteen large recycling containers have been given to the schools and Mr. Smith can get more if needed through the borough's Clean Communities grant. Mr. Smith indicated that this is an excellent first step for borough and Board of Education cooperation. The school system did look into participation in the Sustainable Schools but is not going forward with the program at this time. Recycling containers will be needed for "Relay for Life" in June.

RECYCLING MOVIE NIGHT

Mr. Ranzi would like the Recycling Committee to sponsor a movie night, possibly in the fall, featuring "Bag It," a movie about plastics. Ms. Weber suggested that the activity be done in May and she will spearhead the event.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m. upon motion by Mr. Schumacher, seconded by Mr. Rutkowski, and carried unanimously.

