

Borough of Mechanicsburg
Citizens Advisory Recycling Committee Meeting
April 5, 2005, 6 PM

Chairman Shulman called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM

The following people were in attendance:

Councilmen: Humes, McDermott, Seagrist & Ryder
Citizens Recycling Advisory Committee members: Erin Arra, Rich Heinick, David Hoover, Diane Hollinger, Sandra Kroft, Justin Miller, Arleen Shulman, Audrie Stewart, Cecilia Viti & Mark Vottero
Borough Staff: Glenda Boyer

OUTREACH EDUCATION:

Justin Miller shared with the group that the Borough's recycling rate over the last two years has increased. He also reminded everyone of the upcoming County recycling dates. Justin asked if the minutes from the Recycling Committee could be put on the Web site. Glenda said she would check with the Borough Manager.

Arlene welcomed new members and asked that background information be provided to them via regular mail, so they could get up to speed. Glenda will have the information mailed out.

Councilman Seagrist asked for volunteers for the Great PA Clean Up on April 23rd. 10 to 1. Volunteers will meet at the Borough Office. He also indicated that graffiti removal may be done in addition to trash collection.

Glenda asked for help with Jubilee Day Recycling efforts. Last year's failed attempt was discussed and Rich indicated that he could get some scouts to help. Cecilia Viti also said that she could help with the project. Glenda will try to coordinate with Rich and Cecilia on this project. Mark Vottero officered his assistance in an advisory capacity.

Glenda distributed copies of the survey, prepared by Arlene to the group. Everyone should review the questions and get input to Glenda by April 19th, so that the final product can be on the Council agenda for approval in May and inclusion in the summer edition of the newsletter. Results should be back by the end of June to help in the bid evaluation process. It was suggested that a question on yard waste be added.

REFUSE/RECYCLING CONTRACT – PAYT

Councilman Ryder noted that a trip is planned to Elizabethtown Borough on April 18th to gather some information on their program.

Arlene asked that bid process be reviewed. Glenda stated that Council would review the bid document, then authorized advertisement of the bid. The bid opening would be held and then Council would take action on the bids received. Arlene asked if the Recycling Committee could make recommendations to Borough Council regarding the bid options to be awarded. Glenda stated that Council could, if they chose, consider a recommendation or input from the committee in the award process. A time line was discussed with Councilman Humes indicating that the price would need to be set before the budget was finalized. The time line for award should be in October.

Mark Vottero offered to provide sample contracts for the committee to consider. Arleen reviewed the timeline, stating that all revisions should be complete and the proposed contract revisions submitted to Council by July.

Yard Waste collection was discussed, as well as the need to better explain the process to residents through education.

Collection of cardboard curbside was discussed. Sandra Kroft indicated that service was provided in the community she came from in Maryland and she would like to have it included. The pro's and con's were discussed, and it could be added as an option in the contract for consideration.

OTHER ISSUES

Arleen Shulman directed Borough Staff to compile and send out some information on the committee, as well as, a copy of the current refuse contract to new members for review.

Councilman Ryder asked if the Recycling Committee wanted to be considered in the proposed Environmental Council. The scope of the proposed Council was discussed and the group expressed a desire to keep recycling included in the scope, if this is the direction Council is taking. Rich Heinick expressed his frustration that the group is not able to reach out with more community based education. The need to reach young people was discussed, with Justin indicating he does work with the environmental club at the school.

At 7:25 PM, the meeting was adjourned.

SURVEY SUGGESTIONS SHOULD BE SENT TO GLENDA AT THE BOROUGH OFFICE BY APRIL 19TH, FOR COUNCIL ACTION AT THE MAY 3RD COUNCIL MEETING.

NEXT MEETING: May 3rd – 6 PM