

**Borough of Mechanicsburg
Citizens Recycling Advisory Committee Meeting
September 6, 2005, 6:00 PM**

The following people were in attendance:

Council: Charles Ryder

Citizens Recycling Advisory Committee members: Carl Hursh, Arleen Shulman, Cece Viti

Borough Staff: Glenda Boyer

Chairman Shulman called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. Councilman Ryder indicated that it was likely that Borough Council will accept the Penn Waste, Inc. offer to extend the current refuse and recycling service contract. Glenda Boyer indicated that formal action on the contract could happen as early as the September 20th Borough Council meeting. Glenda handed out a memo to Borough Council summarizing the offer, including:

Continuation of the current rate of \$13.94/month for refuse and recycling services through 2006 and 2007.

Curbside collection of cardboard that is cut into pieces no larger than 12" x 12" and bundled with string or placed in a brown paper bag.

Continued service for the cardboard collection box on West Allen St.

Bag option for residents at a minimum cost of \$21/quarter:

- 24-bag minimum/year is required,
- Additional bags available from Borough at \$3.50 each,
- Bags may be used to line trash cans,
- Bulk item collection requires one bag affixed to each time,
- Additional recycling bin available from the Borough at no charge.

The committee discussed the recycling education plan and budget. A door-to-door delivery campaign is envisioned that would provide each household serviced by Penn Waste with the following materials: a sticker for each curbside recycling bin designating what goes into the bin, a sample "Bag Option" plastic bag of the same weight and dimensions of the Penn Waste orange bag but different in color, a printed piece describing the Bag Option program, cardboard recycling instructions and mixed paper recycling instructions. Arleen suggested that donated paper grocery bags also be provided to help demonstrate how mixed paper should be recycled.

The committee will need to secure volunteers and a coordinator for the campaign. The Mechanicsburg High School Environmental Club was identified as a candidate group. It was agreed that the volunteers would not be asked to engage residents during the door-to-door distribution; however, they should be trained about the aspects of the recycling program in the event they were asked questions about the program. Carl suggested early November as a target time for the distribution. The proposed \$3,000 budget for the materials and printing is thought to be adequate. Glenda will identify the appropriate cost center for the expenses

In addition to the door-to-door distribution, the committee will seek speaking opportunities and press coverage. The November Crime Watch meeting has been identified speaking opportunity for Cumberland Co. Recycling Coordinator Justin Miller.

Arlene and Glenda suggested that the committee be formalized into an Environmental Advisory Committee as proposed by Councilman Ryder through enactment of a Borough ordinance. The timing of the ordinance should allow for recruitment of new/additional members beginning in

2006. Carl suggested that the winter edition of the Borough newsletter could be ideal for an announcement about the new committee and a solicitation for members.

Action Items:

Contact Paul Garrett, Advisor to the Env. Club: Councilman Ryder

Contact Giant Foods for donation of 3,650 paper grocery bags: Councilman Ryder

Secure invitation for Justin Miller to speak at November Senior Center meeting: Glenda Boyer

Seek cost estimate for 8 ½" x 11" stickers as printed piece: Glenda Boyer

Draft details for printed piece: Carl Hursh

Design/write printed piece: Cese Viti

Draft press release about the new contract: Carl Hursh

Draft article about Environmental Advisory Committee for Borough newsletter: Arlene Shulman

Draft language for Borough ordinance adopting the Env. Committee: Glenda Boyer

This committee is encouraged to share progress with the above tasks by e-mail.

The next meeting of the Mechanicsburg Citizen's Recycling Advisory Committee will be held at 6:00 PM on October 4.