

Mechanicsburg Recycling Committee
January 2, 2007—6:00 PM
2nd Floor Conference Room

In Attendance: Glenda Boyer, Rich Hoover, Diane Hollinger, Cese Viti,
Councilpersons: Linda Humes, Charlie Ryder, and John McDormott

New Business

A. Glenda distributed the results of a survey of single bag option users (attached). The overall reviews are favorable with 149 residents currently taking advantage of the option.

B. The committee decided to take out a full page color ad in the MASH spring musical program to highlight

- 1) recycling-- emphasizing chip paper, phone books, catalogs, and magazines as great sources of tonnage to increase grant money the Borough receives from recycling
- 2) County's spring electronics collection date
- 3) Composting info, especially the new plan for curbside pick up, namely that from April 1 to September 30 residents can call the Borough and have their yard waste picked up on Wednesdays. Also emphasizing the 24 hour drop off feature and the location of the composting site. A PDF of the proposed Ad will be circulated for comments.

C. Two wreaths have been constructed by Carl Hursh from the grape vine cut to officially open the composting site December 9, 2006. The Borough will give one wreath to Silver Springs, and Mechanicsburg will keep one. The composting site is run on the honor system, but there will be electronic monitoring.

Old Business

A. The committee discussed

- 1) bag limit stipulation to have in place before the bidding process for waste hauling occurs, probably in June. No decision made on number of bags.
- 2) the proposed stipulation that yard waste and grass clippings no longer be picked up with the regular trash because of the availability of the composting site and of the curb side pick up
- 3) possible cap on price of bags for bag option participants, i.e. \$3 instead of the \$3.50 now being charged
- 4) Carlisle's using recycling performance grant money to defray residents' recycling costs
- 5) the possibility of offering the single bag users the same bulk item deal regular trash residents have, i.e. one bulk item per week, no extra cost. Currently single bag residents must affix a \$3.50 bag to the bulk item.
- 6) door hangers or flyers of some sort to target info about magazines, catalogs, phone books, junk mail that can be recycled right along with newspapers. There seems to be an information gap in the town concerning this recycling option.
- 7) how to encourage businesses to recycle.

Suggestions:

- a. include a businesses recycling option in the refuse bid.
 - b. ask for additional dumpsters for cardboard
 - c. suggest that adjacent businesses share the cost of a recycling dumpster or toter (i.e., Colony House and Jo Jo's, neither of which currently recycles)
 - d. offer compliance rewards in the way of publicity or stickers for doors saying "This business has received the Recycling Seal of Approval" or similar wording
 - e. spotlight our successes: St. Joe's, Ritter's, Agway, Businesses at the west end of town or "the point," where 3 businesses kick in to share cost of cardboard dumpster
 - f. offer Chamber recycling containers (big grey bottles) to businesses for glass and plastic and then provide a dumpster where the containers could be dumped.
- 8) someone from the committee attempting to surveill each trash route in town at least twice to assess the volume and quality of recycling and to look for exemplary efforts that could be rewarded and publicized.

B. Announcements

1. January 3, Planning Commission will review the Comp Plan
2. Clean Air Board Meeting in Carlisle Thursday in Carlisle.
3. Next Recycling Committee meeting February 6 at 6 PM.

Glenda adjourned the meeting at 7:15 PM.