

Mechanicsburg Environmental Advisory Committee  
Recycling Advisory Subcommittee  
Minutes  
May 1 2007

**Present:** Council Member Charlie Ryder, **Council Member John McDermott**, Coordinator  
Glenda Boyer, Dave Hoover, Diane Hollinger, Carl Hursh, and Cese Viti

**Art Contest for Environmental Day May 5**

The Committee chose 12 of the 32 submitted recycling posters for consideration of the EAC.

**Refuse/Recycling Contract Areas of Interest**

The areas listed below were reviewed:

- \*Bag Limits—the Committee suggests 3 as the limit per household per week.
- \*Retaining all special provisions (elderly or handicapped eligible for “back door” pick up, the “single-bag option,” etc.)
- \*Curb side recycling of cardboard expanded to provide for easier preparation (i.e., not cut and tied into 12x12 inch bundles)
- \***Requiring** asking the hauler to assist in the educational effort in some way **by distributing reminders of what can be set out for recycling as well as tags or stickers that can be left behind with non-recyclable items in recycling bins, explaining why the items were not collected. Also included would be congratulatory tags for people who get it right. We should not expect haulers to place door hangers on doors.**

**Other contract ideas were discussed:**

- \*making a list of provisions and alternate options so that the bidder can bid on some items but not all.
- \*amending the bulk item pick up option, unused by the majority of residents. Perhaps a PAYT option for bulk items could be a way to keep costs down for the general population.
- \*determining if we want to have hauler pick up curb side yard waste and take it to the composting site instead of using Borough personnel, considering that 3 years from now, the curb side pick up may generate much more waste than at present

Hursh pointed out that what the contract calls *yard waste* is in fact *leaf waste* because it excludes grass clippings. Hurst suggested the new contract substitute the Act 101 definition of leaf waste: **“Leaves, garden residues, shrubbery and tree trimmings, and similar material but not including grass clippings.”** He also suggested the provision allowing logs 6 feet in length and 12 inches in diameter for curb side pick up represents a hardship to the haulers and should be amended to **4 feet, and 3 or 4 inch diameter.**

**Recycling Education:**

- \* Glenda Boyer will go forward with the plan to monitor recycling and to use door hangers to call residents’ attention to infractions in their recycling efforts and to once again review items eligible for recycling. Boyer and a volunteer will begin the process Thursday May 3.

**Other Recycling Concerns:**

Hursh distributed literature for committee members to read for next month.

Because of time constraints, in future, the Recycling Committee will meet at 5:30 instead of 6 PM.

The meeting adjourned at 6:35.