

Mechanicsburg Environmental Advisory Committee
Recycling Advisory Subcommittee
Minutes
August 7, 2007

Present: Coordinator Glenda Boyer, Committee Members Diane Hollinger, Carl Hursh, Cese Viti, Councilmen Seacrist, McDermott, and Ryder

On-Going Projects

Glenda reported on progress of door-to-door recycling education effort and distribution of educational materials (door hangers and craft bags with printed list of paper recyclables). About half the borough has been contacted; plans are to complete the project in the next month or two.

The curb side yard waste pick up program is a great success.

Review of refuse/recycling contract document for bidding

*wording changes

p. 16 “disposal or transfer facility” to replace “dumping area”

p. 20 add “incompliance with state law” after the words “transfer area”

Note: trash trucks weighing over 17,000 lb. must have DEP stickers

p.23 amend 4.0130 to read “grass, and leaves collected by vacuum.”

p. 25 “tree trunks of 6 inches in diameter” to replace “12 inches in diameter”

*other points of discussion

Will the hauler be obliged to report on number of non-compliant stickers distributed?

How to involve Mechanicsburg schools and get them recycling. Glenda will ask a rep from the district to speak to the committee in October. Also, St. Joe’s, which is already in compliance, may be invited to share their plan with the committee.

Perhaps the Chamber could award certificates, coupons, etc., to businesses and individuals who exhibit good recycling habits.

To engage the sixth graders, frame last year’s fifth grade recycling art winners and present the kids with their framed art.

Open a second site to recycle cardboard—possible site, the high school.

Put an article in the fall newsletter giving residents an idea of what recycling options are out for bidding.

Adopt a planter idea—if planters were placed by recycling and trash containers, residents or businesses could be invited to adopt planters, to be mini garden angels or bloomin’ keepers who would maintain the planters through the growing season.

Maintain a Q&A feature on the borough web site with questions like “Can deli containers be recycled?” or “Are all items marked #2 eligible for recycling?”

News

Wegman’s is planning on composting their fruit and veggie waste at a South Middleton site. South Middleton and Upper Allen are forming recycling committees similar to ours.

Next meeting: Tue. Sept 11 at 5:30 pm