

**Mechanicsburg Environmental Advisory Committee  
Recycling Advisory Subcommittee  
Minutes  
February 5, 2008**

**Present:** Coordinator Glenda Boyer, Borough Councilmen Charlie Ryder and John McDermott, Committee Members Carl Hursh, Diane Hollinger, and Cese Viti and guest Paul Garrett of Mechanicsburg Adult Environmental Club.

**New Business:**

\*Garrett informed the Committee that the Club will be collecting CEM from senior citizens and transporting the recyclable materials to the Plainfield venue the first weekend in April as part of the Cumberland County Recycling and Waste Authority's electronic recycling program.

\*Garrett brought the Committee up to date on the Club's latest plans to collect batteries for the purposes of getting batteries out of the main refuse stream and of raising funds the Mechanicsburg Adult Environmental Club can use to support local environmental initiatives. Garrett presented a proposed letter to be used to enlist the cooperation of local businesses. Possible vehicles of advertising the venture were suggested: the Borough news letter, Councilman McDermott's update, signs at the Senior Center, Ritter's bulletin board.

Hursh strongly suggested that instead of the proposed network of battery collection sites, the Club use standard battery recycling vehicles that already exist but are not fully utilized. For example, Ritters and CVS could be possible sites of an RBRC site which would provide venues for collecting rechargeable batteries and the means to ship them to a recycling site at no cost to the business owners. Such a system does not offer remuneration for the batteries.

Hursh cited possible problems such as the batteries waiting for collection presenting fire hazards and raised the further question of liability should such a fire at a participating business occur.

Hursh encouraged Garrett to contact Tom Hyatt to get his take on the feasibility and possible pitfalls of a volunteer collection plan.

\*The Club will again help during Jubilee Day to keep as many cans and bottles and cardboard out of the refuse stream as possible. Garrett pointed out that last year, much cardboard was missed because the refuse trucks beat us to the cardboard.

Plans are to increase the load capacity of the cardboard carrier and to organize sites on the outskirts of the vendor area to serve as collection points through the day, thus eliminating the need for volunteers to transport the recyclables all the way back to the Borough Building after each collection round.