

**Willistown Recycling Commission**

**Meeting Minutes of February 10, 2015 (Page 1 of 2)**

Attendees: Mark Bem, Ken Lehr & Jim Tate. Absent: Brian St. Clair & Karl Malessa

**Current Business**

**I. Website Page Update**

Mark Bem presented copy and layout. JT will review and advise of any revisions.

**II. Update on Recycling Ordinance Revise**

JT and Dave Burman will work on this sometime between 2/15 and 3/15.

**III. Letter to Haulers**

In progress. The purpose of this letter is to obtain 2014 tonnage figures, which will be used in the annual recycling grant application to PADEP.

**IV. Letter to HOAs**

In progress. The purpose of this letter is to advise HOAs of the specifics of recycling regulations in the township. HOAs are, in fact, classified by PADEP as residential, not commercial.

**V. Update on Recycling Grant Application for 2013**

The grant was submitted on September 29, 2014. Persistent pursuit of one of the township's "smaller" recycling haulers resulted in the hauler submitting a revised report for 2013 showing a large increase in tonnage over their original report. PADEP was contacted to ask permission to submit a revised grant application. Permission was granted. Nevertheless, JT will make a follow-up call to ensure the revised tonnage has been included in the calculation to determine the amount of the township's grant.

**New Business**

**I. Covered Device Act**

This act made the collection of e-waste (computers, TVs) a requirement for all manufacturers of such. Manufacturers are permitted to hire and pay individual recycling vendors through the county recycling coordinators in Pennsylvania. The amount manufacturers have to pay vendors (price/pound) during a current year is based on the weight of e-products sold two years prior to the current year. The vendors are paid by the manufacturers through county recycling coordinators.

E-waste has been accepted at each county-sponsored Household Hazardous Waste disposal/recycling event in the state for several years; there was no charge to residents. Chester County has been organizing five HHW events per year in recent years. Although the system appeared to work well for three years, there was trouble brewing among the recycling vendors. They were losing money on much of the e-waste they were recycling because the manufacturers were not reimbursing them a fair price/pound. Fast forward to 2015. Manufacturers and recycling vendors could not reach an agreement. E-waste will NOT be accepted at any county-sponsored HHW event until further notice. This is a recycling travesty! Hundreds of thousands of tons of e-waste have been diverted from landfills throughout the state because the e-waste was collected and recycled. What will residents do now? It is illegal to dispose of e-waste with the township's various curbside trash programs. Fortunately, Willistown will continue to accept e-waste (along with metal, tires and other items) during its annual drop-off recycling program on April 11<sup>th</sup>.

JT will periodically contact Chester County's Recycling Coordinator for updates about efforts by PADEP to resolve the manufacturers'- recycling vendors' squabble.

**II. Residential Recycling Report**

JT is developing a report listing the services and costs of recycling by each of four haulers that serve residents of the township. This should be available by mid-March. It will be sent to West Whiteland Township with a request that their multi-township chart showing recycling rates and other particulars be updated to show the current Willistown information.

**III. The Recycling Commission**

Two additional members are needed in order to have a seven-member commission.

**IV. Recycling Bin for CDs, DVDs, Audio-/Videotapes**

The bin is full and will be emptied the week of February 9<sup>th</sup>. (It was.) We have emptied the bin, packed and shipped 520 pounds since 12/20/14. Residents really take advantage of this recycling option.

**V. Next Meeting – March 10<sup>th</sup>, 7:00pm – 8:00pm, 400 Lloyd Ave., Malvern, PA**

**Jim Tate  
Chairman  
Recycling Commission**