

ORANGE RECYCLING COMMITTEE
DRAFT MINUTES
May 16, 2018

The Town of Orange Recycling Committee met at the High Plains Community Center on May 16, 2018. The meeting was called to order at 7:07 PM. Chair, Mitch Goldblatt presided.

In Attendance: Ilene Moyher, Karen Della-Giustina, Loretta Smith, Mark Moyher and Mary-Jo Sierakowski.

Special Guest: Bob Brinton – Recently appointed Director of Public Works/Town Engineer to replace Bob Hiza who will stay on to help with the transition. Bob introduced himself to the committee members and we informed him on items that we are currently working on regarding the Transfer Station so he could understand our goals and provide input to help us achieve them.

Public Input: None

Minutes Approval: Mary-Jo Sierakowski made a motion and Ilene Moyher seconded to approve the minutes of April 18, 2018. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Financial Update: Tom George has provided the latest financial report. We recently received bills for items of purchasing our website domain and Poly Wrap Recycling bags.

ORANGE RECYCLING COMMITTEE ACCOUNT

5/16/2018	1-056-890-90-956-50	
	2017	
Balance Forward		\$ 1,008.25
Recycle Bagging System	\$ (184.35)	\$ 823.90
Otto-Environmental (Bins)	\$ (3,626.22)	\$ (2,802.32)
Fair Reimbursement	\$ 50.00	\$ (2,752.32)
Town of Orange	\$ 1,600.00	\$ (1,152.32)
Barker Specialty (T-Shirts)	\$ (289.80)	\$ (1,442.12)
Plastic Bags	\$ (200.00)	\$ (1,642.12)
Donuts Country Fair	\$ (101.75)	\$ (1,743.87)
	2018	
Vent Plastic Bags	\$ (65.44)	\$ (1,809.31)
ST CT DEEP Reimbursement	\$ 3,626.22	\$ 1,816.91
Barker Specialty (Chip Clips)	\$ (792.12)	\$ 1,024.79
Ilene R. Moyher (Website)	\$ (346.71)	\$ 679.48
Vent Plastic Bags	\$ (204.56)	\$ 474.92

ORANGE, CONN
 TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
 RECEIVED FOR RECORDS
 018 MAY 18 AM 8:55
 Mitch R. Goldblatt
 TOWN CLERK

Residential Recycling Rates:

MONTH	2017	2018	DELTA
January	84.88	92.71	9.2%
February	70.68	78.26	10.7%
March	84.39	77.26	-8.4%
April	75.14	77.20	2.7%
YTD Total	315.09	325.43	3.3%

Old Business:

Shredding Day and Mattress Collection: The event held on Saturday April 28, 2018 at the High Plains Community Center turned out to be another great success as 12,400 pounds of paper was shredded. There were 30 mattresses collected this year between the pickups done by the Lions Club and those dropped off at the Center. John Brown and his son did a terrific job collecting all the cardboard and bringing it to the Transfer Station for disposal. Evan Hollander volunteered and helped collect information for the committee. The Orange Community Women were also on hand to accept donations of household items and clothing.

Town Website: We have our own website now - orangerecycles.com which is being cleaned up by Ilene Moyher to make presentable. Once this process is finished we will have the link added to the town's website so residents can click on it where they will find all the current information, updates and details to assist them with their recycling needs. We will promote the launch of this website on Facebook to inform the public when it becomes available.

Discussion of layout and signage at the Transfer Station: We are looking towards our next meeting to make a decision on where we expect to acquire the icons we need to start the Signage process for the Transfer Station. We also need to decide if Signarama will be able to create the signs for us or if we will need to approach another vendor.

Plastic Bag and Wrap Recycling: This has been a very welcome addition to the Transfer Station and residents are using it in earnest. We recently had to place another order to provide more bags needed to keep up with the demand.

Business Expo: The Orange Business Expo is taking place on June 6, 2018 from 11am – 4pm and the recycling committee is participating again this year. Mitch, Chris and Tom are volunteers and will cover our table that day. The Chip Clips are in and will be the give-away item at events this year.

Shredding Day in October with Rotary Club: October 13, 2018 is scheduled as a second shredding day event and was recently posted to the new Community Calendar hosted by the Chamber of Commerce.

New Business:

Balloon Disposal: We recently found out, unfortunately, that Mylar balloons, which will adorn mailboxes and houses to commemorate high school graduation and other celebrations, are not recyclable, but they are to be disposed of as trash. We will post, and recommend on the website that the balloons should be deflated and disposed of properly instead of being released into the sky where they can cause problems with littering and the environment.

HazWaste Days: We will have volunteers working at the June 30, 2018 and October 6, 2018 collection dates. Mark and Loretta volunteered to work the June 30 event. Mitch, Chris and Tom have volunteered for the October 6 event. It will take place at the Regional Water Authority located at 90 Sargent Drive in New Haven.

Orange Country Fair: The fair is scheduled for September 15-16, 2018. There are many things to go over before then, but continuing our collaboration with Nadine and passing out coupons to get free donuts is a definite tradition we will continue with again this year.

OVNA and Prescription Drug Collection: Loretta informed us that the OVNA is not able to collect the prescription drugs anymore since they do not have a viable way to dispose of them. CVS has a program, but it is currently limited to customers only. A possible solution is that Loretta will speak with the Orange Police Department to see if they will be able to accept the drugs and dispose of them for the residents like some other town police departments currently do.

New Community Calendar with Chamber of Commerce: Mitch recently attended a meeting with other committees/organizations to come up with a way to improve event scheduling. The Chamber of Commerce will host a calendar that will allow organizations to look up dates to see if there are any potential scheduling conflicts before they decide to host an event and not have it coincide with another big or similar event to try and improve their own success. The Orange Recycling Committee's October 13 Shredding Day was the first item to go up on this new calendar.

Recycling Costs due to China: With all the recent news about China suspending imports of recyclables from the U.S. and the toughening of the acceptance level of contaminants in the products we need to be concerned. Higher costs are making it difficult for most recyclable products to be profitable so some transfer stations might start refusing them. That means they could end up back in our landfills unless domestic demand can replace China. We hope all this is very short term, but indications are that this can be troublesome going forward for longer than we would like.

Next Scheduled Meeting: Wednesday, June 20, 2018

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM after a motion by Loretta Smith, seconded by Mark Moyher and carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Moyher
Secretary