

Candia Recycling & Energy Committee
Public Meeting Minutes
September 26, 2024

Attendance:

Committee members: Clay Caddy, Janet Lewis, Russ Dann, Dick Snow, and Al Couch.

Russ mentioned as an FYI that the Recycling Center Thursday hours will be cut back to the seasonal 4:30 closing time in two weeks.

Old Home Day and HHWD review- The overlap of the two events was discussed. Clean Harbors was not able to set us up for the usual September date due to internal scheduling issues. Russ was asked if Chuck has set up the September date for next year. He said that Chuck has not been able to reach Clean Harbors. Andria has also tried calling but has not reached them yet. Russ said that Chuck is also checking with other companies that do Household Hazardous Waste collection for towns.

Old Home Day went very well- it was a good event and we were able to hand out recycling info and answer questions for residents. Clay helped with HHWD and said that the it was very busy at the start of the event. He said that cars were backed up to route 27 in the beginning. Although there was steady traffic throughout the event, Clay said cars were not lined up like they were at the opening.

Contaminated oil in collection tank- Russ said that the oil collection tank that has been contaminated with disposal of non-acceptable fluid has not yet been emptied. He said Waste Management picks up the oil from us. He has asked them for a list of fluids that can be included with waste oil, and has also asked for a sign that can be posted near the tanks that will inform people what they can properly dispose of that can be recycled with the waste oil.

Roadside Pickup- Dick asked when we would be setting up a formal roadside pickup day. Russ said this would be in the Spring, probably on Earth Day. Dick said that the Boy Scouts were interested in helping with this, and suggested that we get in touch with them to get things set up. He suggested we invite them to one of our meetings. Russ said it's probably best to set up a meeting with them in January. Also, he said we could invite the Community Women's Club, as they have also been involved in roadside pickup.

Dick asked about the used trailer we discussed at the last meeting. Old trailers can be very useful for additional storage at the Recycling Center. Al said he gave all the info to Chuck, and Chuck has looked at it, but determined it was in too rough a condition to consider buying it.

Al mentioned that at the traffic circle in front of the Recycling Center entrance, there was a large pothole that could be a problem for things like trailers that could not get around it. Al asked if the Road Agent could be made aware of this at the next Board meeting. Russ said the pothole has already been fixed by the Road Agent.

Plastic Bag recycling- Al said when he was at the Recycling Center last weekend, Joe said they were almost ready to try baling plastic bags for the first time. They have previously been taking several large bags loaded with plastic bags to the Hannaford store in Northwood. The Northwood store is the only store that would accept the quantity of bags we were turning in. Although we were not paid for the bags, Trex Plastic gave us a free outdoor bench for every 500 pounds of bags we turned in. If we can come up with a large enough quantity of bags to make an acceptable bale of them, we would get paid for the bags directly by Trex, and they would also arrange for the bale of bags to be picked up. Trex requires a bale weight of 750 to 1000 lbs. This will be a much better way to recycle plastic bags if this trial run works.

Improvements for bag recycling- Al said that he thinks we could do better with the recycling of plastic bags, but he felt that there are some changes needed to make the recycling program work better. We need to 1) Find a better place that is much more visible to collect the bags. 2) Find a better place to store collected bags. They take up a lot of space to collect enough to make a bale. 3) Have a large sign at the collection area that clearly shows that we do plastic bag recycling, and also showing the details of what can and cannot be included.

Next meeting- Thursday, Oct 24, 6:30 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Al Couch, Recycling & Energy Committee member