



Recycling Committee

Thursday, October 15, 2009 – 5:30 p.m.
225 W. Main Street, Room 100
Gaylord, MI 49735

MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Beachnau called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

Members Present: Paul Beachnau, Ken Glasser, John Burt, Beth Dipzinski, Carol Rabineau, Dave Matelski, Diane Franckowiak, Jack Thompson, Diane House, Mark Eckstein, Patricia Osburn, Judge Pat Morse, Dave Smethurst

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Glasser to “approve the Recycling Committee minutes of August 19, 2009”. Motion Carried.

III. OLD BUSINESS

A. Recycling Request Update

The Committee discusses the request for funding assistance from the townships and City for the part-time Recycling Educator/Volunteer Coordinator position. Charlton, Chester, Dover, Elmira, and Livingston Townships voted against the request. Representative from several other municipalities have indicated that they would also vote against the request. A large part of the reason for the denials of the request is the financial uncertainty that most municipalities are now facing. Also, outlying townships have indicated that they would want to see an increase of service and convenience for their participants in terms of recycling opportunities.

The Committee discussed various ideas on how to proceed. Osburn indicated that she is hoping to get an AmeriCorps volunteer. That person could potentially spend half of their time working on Recycling. The Group agreed that the focus should be on increasing recycling service in the County. They also discussed the cost involved with establishing a countywide recycling program. The Group discussed having a small group put together options for a pilot project located somewhere like Meijer or Wal-Mart, a township pilot project, and a full-scale County program. Motion by Smethurst to “form a sub-committee to put together a plan with multiple options including multiple options and to work with Patricia Osburn to figure out the cost and needs of an AmeriCorps volunteer to help with recycling”. Motion Carried. The Sub-Committee will include Paul Beachnau, Beth Dipzinski, Dave Smethurst, Jack Thompson, and John Burt. Once the Sub-Committee approves a plan, they would look at holding a town hall meeting to get people excited about the plan. They would also invite Elisa Seltzer from Emmet County Recycling to speak at the forum.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Radio Request

Janice Lampert sent in a request to John Burt to have someone join her on Mike Reling's radio show on October 30 to discuss the Recycling Committee's efforts. Chairman Beachnau indicated that he would be willing to go on the show.

III. ADJOURN

A. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting will be called once the plan options have been formulated.

The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Beachnau at 6:30 PM.