

ORANGE RECYCLING COMMITTEE
DRAFT MINUTES
April 28, 2021

The Town of Orange Recycling Committee met on line with the use of Zoom Meetings on April 28, 2021. The special meeting was called to order at 7:06 PM. Chair, Mitch Goldblatt presided.

In Attendance: Mitch Goldblatt, Mark Moyher, Ilene Moyher, Karen Della-Giustina, Patrick Legault, Loretta Smith and Wendy Novick. Non-members who also attended – Chris Kelly (OGAT) who was recording the special meeting on our behalf, and Susan Wineland.

Public Input: Susan Wineland inquired about publicizing companies that are involved in using recycled products. While we do not endorse any particular company, we may inform our residents on new products in recycling if we come across any we feel are worth mentioning. She also asked about particular packaging and what may or may not be recycled as part of the WRAP Program for plastic bags and wrap.

Minutes Approval: Ilene Moyher made a motion and Patrick Legault seconded to approve the minutes of March 17, 2021. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Financial Update: The Orange Recycling Committee paid \$550.00 to Affordable Solutions for the Shredding Day event on April 10, 2021 which was reimbursed back to us by the Rotary Club.

ORANGE RECYCLING COMMITTEE ACCOUNT

4/27/2021	1-056-890-90-956-50		
		2020	
Balance Forward			\$1,962.38
		2021	
FastSigns	(\$54.94)		\$1,907.44
Affordable Solutions	(\$550.00)		\$1,357.44
Reimbursement – Rotary Club	\$550.00		\$1,907.44

ORANGE, CONN
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
RECEIVED TOWN RECORDS
2021 APR 29 AM 8:36
 Mitch H. O'Neil
TOWN CLERK

Residential Recycling Rates:

MONTH	2020	2021	DELTA
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January	89.29	73.49	-17.7%
February	66.18	64.09	-3.2%
March	80.90	83.67	3.4%
April	84.97		
May	80.87		
June	86.13		
July	89.38		
August	72.26		
September	82.31		
October	70.40		
November	87.92		
December	87.37		
YTD Total	236.37	221.25	-6.4%

**Simple Recycling
Textile Rates:**

<u>2020</u>	<u>Pounds</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Paid</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>Pounds</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Paid</u>
January				January	11,343	\$0.0575	\$652.22
February				February	8,004	\$0.0575	\$460.23
March				March	9,7800	\$0.0575	\$562.35
April				April			
May				May			
June				June			
July				July			
August				August			
September	1,220	\$0.0575	\$70.15	September			
October	11,600	\$0.0575	\$667.00	October			
Nov	12,381	\$0.0575	\$711.91	Nov			
Dec	12,959	\$0.0575	\$745.15	Dec			
YTD Total	38,160	\$0.0575	\$2,194.21	YTD Total	29,127	\$0.0575	\$1,674.80

Old Business:

New Rack N Pac Shed: There was no update on when the permanent shed would be approved and installed. In the meantime, Home Depot did put up a new temporary shed which has been in operation and plastic bags are being accepted once again and town residents have been dropping them off in large volumes.

Simple Recycling at Transfer Station and High Plains: Simple Recycling and the Transfer Station are trying to work on some minor issues. These involve cleaning out the trailer which has its complications at present. Residents are putting items in the trailer loosely, as opposed to a box or bag making it time consuming to pick them up, not to mention the items are getting dirty lying around. Also, there are items being added that are broken and therefore useless or not even on the list of acceptable items. We are exploring publicizing that bags will be made available at the entry booth for people to put their items in before leaving them in the trailer. We also want to remind residents this service is for the town and they should refrain from picking through and removing items from the trailer.

Shredding Day – 2021: We had a very successful Shredding Day event on April 17, 2021. Everybody, including our volunteers, Katie Clark, John Brown, Tyler Lee and members from the Rotary Club made this a great day. Affordable Solutions successfully shredded 14,000 lbs of paper which, for a three hour period, was the most they have ever done. We also brought in a record 65 mattresses and the Orange County Fair committee was pleased with the food drive that they held at the same time.

Proposed Expanded Bottle Bill-SB1037 Update: Bill No. 1037 was successfully voted out of the Environment Committee. A lot of support from many state organizations helped this first step get accomplished. We hope to find out in the next few weeks the bill's fate once the Legislature votes whether to pass it or not.

Pill Bottle - #5 Recycling Possibility: Susan Wineland, from the public, recently informed the Recycling Committee about a ministry in Ohio that is collecting pill bottles to send to countries in need of them to assist in storing their medication. We discussed what we can about this and a motion was made Karen Della-Giustina and seconded by Loretta Smith to have us apply for a DEEP grant for \$1,000 to get funding for adding a collection bin inside the shed alongside the Rack N Pak to collect the pill bottles and for covering costs to create signs and pay for postage to mail them to the ministry. While we wait for the grant decision we can do a collection among the committee members and friends and mail them at our expense. It carried unanimously.

Food Scraps: Loretta Smith had looked into the possibility of collecting food scraps for local pig farms and there was concern about what might contaminate the food, like plastic or metal pieces which would compromise the quality. Therefore, at this time, since there was no real interest we will table the idea unless something comes along in the future which might make us want to revisit it.

Tour of Winter Brothers Recycling Plant: The tour of the facility, located in Shelton, CT for the Orange Recycling Committee members is still on hold at this time because of COVID-19. As restrictions are lifting across Connecticut it seems more likely we will get this done during the summer or early fall after more than a year of waiting.

New Business:

Shredding Day – 2021: We have scheduled October 9, 2021 to hold the town's next Shredding Day event. We are discussing how to make it even more efficient. One likely thing will be to determine a certain number of maximum boxes at one time. Residents can get back in line or return later to drop off the leftover boxes if they choose to do so.

Haz Waste Days – Volunteers: They will be looking for volunteers again this summer, but we have not been informed of the date(s) in which Orange will be assigned. Only two or three volunteers will be necessary, down from four or five in past years. Volunteers will only be directing the traffic around to the drop off site. No more handling of paperwork and clipboards. The forms will have to be filled out ahead of time by the residents or they can do it on their phones.

Book Collection Proposal: Discovery Books is interested at having a collection bin put up at the Transfer Station to accept books paying 2 cents per pound for them. Currently, residents can drop off their books at the public library and the Friends of the Library Club tries to resell them at the twice a year book sale to raise funds. Books that are unsold and left over are then sold to Discovery Books at the same 2 cents per pound. The Friends will get back to Mitch as to whether to change this approach and allow the bin and have any revenue collected go back to the library or continue the present process.

Next Meeting May 19, 2021 - in person? We were all asked if we wished to attend our next meeting in person at the High Plains Community Center (still following COVID-19 guidelines) or continue on Zoom. We would lose the OGAT coverage we have been enjoying this past year, but the overall consensus appeared to lean towards safely meeting which will be explored to make sure our meeting room, or another alternative room is available.

Other New Business:

Orange Country Fair September 18 & 19, 2021: We received a registration form in the mail inquiring if we would like to attend and set up a booth at the 2021 Orange Country Fair as we have in the past. Karen Della-Giustina made a motion, which was seconded by Loretta Smith to purchase the booth at a cost of \$125, plus another \$10 for a table to continue our attendance. It carried unanimously.

Next Meeting - Wednesday, May 19, 2021

The special meeting adjourned at 8:19 p.m. after a motion by Wendy Novick, seconded by Ilene Moyher, and carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Moyher
Secretary