



 | **RECYCLING** Minutes
May 8, 2019

Submitted by Claire Anderson

Attendance: Claire Anderson, Nick Joanow, Mark Stulbaum, Oliver Young, Louise Palagano

Call to Order: 7:05 pm

Approval of minutes-Apr 10, 2019-The minutes were approved, Mark Stulbaum moved to approve and Oliver Young seconded.

A. Brookdale Gardens - An email was received from Jay Rapaport who is connected to Brookdale Gardens, he said that they are putting out temporary containers and advising tenants that they must recycle paper and cardboard. It will take a month or so for them to get the permanent receptacles for residents to put their paper and cardboard recycling in.

B. Recycling at the Schools – The schools update was deferred to the next meeting since Michael Heller, the BOE liaison, was not present.

The "Earth Science Circus Assembly" was presented on April 18th at Oakview and Berkeley schools, one in the morning and the other in the afternoon. Louise, Michael Heller and Councilman Joanow attended the shows and reported that they were well received by the children who participated. Louise would like to do 2 more in the Fall; the money comes from the Clean Communities grant and from the recycling committee. While at Oakview Louise took pictures of their recycling containers and saw information displayed about their program to recycle markers.

Digester Pilot Project – No change.

E. Other –The paper shredding event on April 27th in the parking lot of the Board of Education from 9am to 12 noon was very successful; more paper was shredded than in any of the previous 3 years. The event was well advertised; all the recycling bins were given out. There was an article in the Independent Press about the event. Other events that occurred in April were

Government Beautification Day which was attended by Louise and Oliver, who planted flowers in front of the library and the Earth Day celebration in Brookside Park. Although there was some rain at the Earth Day celebration, it was well attended; BMW had an electric vehicle for people to look at and much helpful information was given out; Edgar and Councilman Joanow both attended. Our next event is the North End Electronics Recycling/Big Truck Day that is happening on May 18th. We will give out t-shirts and Louise made up checklists so children can check off each truck as they visit it. Louise reported that milk and juice cartons have to be recycled with paper, and that shredded paper goes into the trash because it clogs up recycling conveyor belts. We need to check the township website to see what category the cartons are listed under.

An applicant for the vacancy on the Recycling Committee came to the Earth Day celebration; he will also be coming to the next meeting of the Committee. Louise mentioned the Hefty bag recycling program where articles that are not usually recycled are put into a Hefty bag to be picked up at the curb; it was unclear exactly how the items would then be recycled. Bloomfield was going to apply for a grant to implement this program, but it was decided that it probably wouldn't work for us. Louise spoke to Suzanne Forbes, the Environmental Affairs Administrator, at Wakefern's(Shop-rite) bag recycling center in Elizabeth, who said they don't have tours due to insurance regulations. She also said that there is not much to see as they bale up the plastic bags and send them elsewhere. Louise brought up at a Safety meeting that municipal employees on "light duty" could possibly work as recycling inspectors until they are able to return to their regular work. The idea may be brought up at the Management meeting. There will be a Food Waste Fair at the Brooklyn Navy Yard whose purpose is to discuss ways to reduce waste and to save money. Notices were sent to restaurants, other food producers and the Health Dept asking them to attend. There was a discussion of Terracycle which has programs to recycle some hard to recycle items. For example if you want to recycle batteries you have to pay \$63.00 for a container that holds 43 lbs of batteries, after it is filled it is sent back to Terracycle and they recycle them. On May 31th the Bloomfield Municipal offices will have their own shredding day.

Meeting adjourned: 8:00 pm.

The next meeting of the Bloomfield Recycling Committee will be held on Wed., June 12, 2019 at 7pm on the 2nd floor of the Police Law Enforcement Building.