

Recycling Committee Minutes–October 8, 2025

- I. **Call to Order:** 7:06pm
- II. **Roll Call:** Bryan Crawley, Edgar Garcia, BOE Liaison Michael Heller, Mark Stulbaum, Norm Sutaria, Councilman Nick Joanow-Council Liaison and Recycling Coordinator Louise Palagano.
- III. **Members of the Public:** None
- IV. **Approval of Minutes:** Norm Sutaria moved and Mark Stulbaum seconded the motion to approve the July 9, 2025 minutes. All present voted in the affirmative for the minutes.
- V. **Old Business:**
 - a) **Recycle Coach Activity Reports**-Louise reviewed the Recycle Coach reports that were distributed by email for August 2025. She will be looking into patterns for 2025 July/August vs. July/August 2024 for the December meeting. It was suggested that “How to Dispose of a Pumpkin” should be added to the Recycle Coach App.
 - b) **Update: Girl Scouts Visit to Recycling Depot-Aug. 2nd**-Norm mentioned that the Girl Scouts had a good tour and learning experience. He also acknowledged that Frank Simone, General Supervisor, did an excellent job explaining the DPW Yard and our Bloomfield Recycling Program as well as answering questions posed by the girls scouts and their parent chaperones. Norm asked the girl scouts to explain their recycling collection of bottle caps which resulted in a new bench placed at the Middle School.
 - c) **Update: Recycling Education Program-Aug. 13th (Brie and Norm)**-Norm spoke about our education program that he and Brie co-chaired. He stated that Wayne DeFeo did an incredible job in his presentation about solid waste and recycling and that he is always superb as a guest speaker because of his knowledge and enthusiasm for the subjects. Also, because of his many years of experience, he was able to answer a wide array of questions posed to him from the committee as well as the public present.
 - d) **Update: Big Truck Day/Electronics Recycling-Sept. 13th**-Louise mentioned that our Big Truck Day/Electronics Recycling event was very successful and thanked the recycling committee volunteers who helped with the event. She stated that she included in their meeting packet a report from eRevival who picks up our electronics. The report indicated that the total weight for electronics from the 9/15th pickup was 2837 lbs. and the total weight from the 9/16th pickup was 2150 lbs.

e) **Update: Pumpkin Smash (Norm)**-Norm reviewed his ideas for a new Recycling Committee event-a Pumpkin Smash. The event was discussed in detail regarding important aspects: timing, logistics, Java Compost, costs incurred for the event including the toters and purchasing of tarps, mallets, safety glasses, etc. Michael Heller stated he would send an email to Joe Fleres, Assistant Superintendent, and Vicky Guo, Business Administrator/Board Secretary, letting them know about the Pumpkin Smash and the fact that only Brookdale School HSA responded in the affirmative thus far. He will ask them if it would be possible to hold this event on the BMS fields on Saturday, November 8th and what form must be completed to obtain permission. (PLEASE NOTE: On 10/15th, Norm emailed that a decision was made that the Pumpkin Smash would be postponed to 2026 due to “lots of moving parts”).

VI. New Business:

a) **Repair Café, Sun. October 5th, 10am-2pm, Civic Center (co-sponsored by Environmental Commission)**-Norm and Councilman Joanow reported on the success of this first-time event. It was stated that there were 8 volunteers repairing jewelry, furniture, small motors, a bike and various other items totaling approximately 30 repairs. It was stated that Kudos go out to Brie, and Norm and Cailyn Bruno (Environmental Commission). It was mentioned that the next Repair Cafe will be held in the spring.

b) **Fall Shredding Event/Reusable Bag Collection, Sat., October 25th, 9am-Noon, 24 Mt. Vernon Ave**-Louise stated that a schedule will be emailed to the committee members for volunteers to sign-up for this event. Louise reviewed the details of the event, the layout, and how it is organized to be enjoyable for the families to enjoy as well as for residents to recycle their electronics.

c) **Committee Members'-Comments-None**

d) **Councilman Joanow-Comments-None**

VI. **Next Meeting:** The next meeting will be held on Nov. 12th, 7pm, Conf. Rm. 205 LEB.

VII. **Adjournment:** 8:09pm

Respectfully submitted,
Louise M. Palagano

Recycling Coordinator