

HOPEWELL VALLEY GREEN TEAM

September 9, 2021 via Zoom - Meeting Minutes

In attendance: J. Held, P. Stahlin, R. Parker, C. Meyer, L. Croucher,
M. van Vuuren, S. Fulmer, C. McKee, P. Kinney

RECYCLING

~ Styrofoam: Logistics of Sept 11 Collection - Princeton Moulding dealing with his yard flooding and low staffing. Using the "cold storage" building at the top of the hill by the baseball fields for staging. Will wait for Gary to send a truck to pick up the material collected hopefully, for not more than 1-2 weeks.

Staffing, Signs, Bags, Tarps - Joann to provide some signage, no cones avail. Using the Washington Crossing entrance, past solar panels... with exit onto Scotch Rd. No games scheduled that we know of, but Rex will double check. Joann and Carol to bring tarps. Joann to provide plastic bags for collection.

Contingency plans? What if Gary doesn't pick up the material? Contact Middletown Township or Sussex County to densify and sell back to Gary. Raybob Packaging in Bristol.

~ Exploring Options for Densifying: Gary does not want to collect low-density material in the future.

Note: Middletown Township and Sussex County have Densifiers (they own the densifiers, due to each owning landfills)

~ Hand-out topics

1. Next Styrofoam Collection Date Unknown - trying to schedule a meeting with MCIA. A small densifier can process 100# of material/hour and cost \$20,000.
2. Problem with #5 Plastics / Preserve Mail In Option (in November)
3. Collection List for Pennington Farmers Market thru October
4. Cellphones, Tablets and other items
5. Call to action by registering their email addresses
6. Ask them to encourage their delis to use #1 and #2 plastic, not #5!

Discussion on mobilizing community members who are interested in working towards promoting the county purchasing a densifier. Get email addresses by having people register their interest for future information regarding styrofoam. Some strong feelings about mobilizing people passionate about this issue.

~ Wrap Up Recycling Grant / Thanking Sponsors - Carol submitted the final grant report to Hopewell Township and our need to thank our sponsors via the website and Facebook.

FOOD WASTE REDUCTION

- ~ ABCs of Reducing Food Waste Campaign on Facebook
- ~ Toolkit for Incorporating Food Waste in Municipal Climate Action Plans (Princeton)

~ **Terra Preta** Organic Waste Collection (Dolph Geurds) picking up from about 20 restaurants and homeowners on a weekly basis and working with this compost material on a defunct farm using the aspiration method of composting and is looking for endorsements. Joann to see if he is available as a guest to our October meeting.

“Keep our ears open” about Sustainable Princeton’s strategies for education on food waste - expanding neighborhood and backyard compost piles and general waste reduction. Sustainable Lawrence does have curbside organic compost collection.

HV Arts Council Junkyard Event: Report

~ All Green Living Kits and most Mending Kits distributed - perfect slower foot traffic to have lots of conversations with community members and give out our kits and bingo cards.

- ~ Bingo Cards

YOUR PLASTIC FREE LIFE: Possible Table at PFM - possibly in October (not Oct. 30 which is our recycling collection)

REUSABLE BAG EXCHANGE

- ~ Scott has a coat rack we can use

WEBSITE (Scott) Highlight energy related tips on our website: Home energy audit, EV, working appliance pickup, new incentives for energy savings. Link to MCIA hazardous waste collection.

Margret Rutgers education series <https://envirostewards.rutgers.edu/Earth-Day>

Scott stated that Hopewell the Presbyterian and Calvary Baptist both have rummage sales starting Thursday, Sept. 16 with the Hopewell-wide yard sales on the weekend, Sat., Sept. 18

UPCOMING EVENTS

Next meeting Oct. 14 at 7:30 via Zoom

Pennington Farmers Market recycling days (9 am – 1 pm) Sept. 25, Oct. 30