

## Rye Recycling Education Committee

9/19/23

Rye Public Library

6:30 p.m.

**Attendees:** Alex H, Joan P, Terri M, Casey W, Pam H

### Action Items

- **Alex-** discuss swap shop opening/closing with Jason at DPW
  - **Alex-** discuss bulky bin payments with select board- can we allow cash?
  - **Pam-** follow up with RJH on recycling contest
  - **Alex/Joan-** Terracycle bin research at RJH
  - **Pam-** Turnkey Landfill write up for Stroll magazine
  - **Pam-** check on Merrow vista trip- what grade? When?
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### Meeting Notes

- Swap Shop Updates
  - New procedure for opening/closing the swap shop-
    - Per attendants a RREC volunteer would need to open the swap shop Tues-Thursday and attendant would be responsible for closing it
    - Above is against the agreement with the select board when the shop was opened- the volunteers were not expected to open and close- that is the job of the attendants- Alex will discuss with Jason R.
  - New Signage Discussion- committee agreed that updated signs do not reduce restricted items....Volunteers would need to monitor the shop and even then residents still insist on leaving items- increase in dumping noted after the bulky bin was limited to Credit Card payments only
  - Suggestion by DPW- visit the Lee transfer station to see how it is run- they also have a swap shop
- Bulky/Wood/Metal switching to CC only
  - The switch has angered residents who don't want to pay the CC fees and/or only have cash
  - We have seen a REDUCTION of income from bulky bins due to the switch- also tied to the machine being DOWN much of the time so residents don't end up paying
  - Auditors suggested CC payments only- can we allow cash too? Alex will discuss with Jason and Select Board
- Rye Recycling Contest
  - Posted online on Facebook page and also town pages- also discussed at Rye 400 day- no one entered contest to date
  - Next steps- work with RJH to get middle schoolers involved.
- RREC Prize money- Spending:
  - Mesh Bags- \$50
  - Lunch for Attendants- \$??
  - ~~Table \$80~~ Per Janice our funds cannot be used for this- Pam to ask what funds can be used for?
  - Additional prizes for recycling contest- \$50
- Misuse of Compactor and Bulky Bins
  - Reports of residents dumping recyclable items into the compactor along with items in bulky bins without paying- what can be done?

- Attendants can remind residents of the policy- if they don't comply or become hostile- report to head of DPW (Proof such as photos would be helpful)
- New Ideas
  - Recycling at the beach- could an extra bin be added to the beach access areas for recycling?
    - Issue- cannot include trash or all recyclables are contaminated.
      - Use cover with small hole for bottles only and signage that explains why trash cannot go in there!
  - Updating the RREC online presence- Casey who attended the meeting may be able to help share our goals and values online- suggestion to post daily to get our views included in everyone's feed
- Adjournment
  - Next Meeting October 17th at Rye Library 6:30 pm