

Rye Recycling Education Committee Minutes for Tuesday, May 22, 2018

Members attending meeting: John Provencher, Joan Provencher, & Helen Hoffman.

Called meeting to order at 6:30pm.

Joan talked about picking items up from people she works for and bringing the items to different venues for recycling or reusing. Helen suggested going to the transfer station one Saturday (maybe once a month) to pass out brochures to the people, explaining that there are other choices, where to bring items for reusing objects, rather than throwing the items in the packer or bulk container.

Joan continued telling that the recycling market has fallen off basically because of a new rule in China about contaminated items. Because people do not rinse out recyclables before they put the items in the recycle bin, China is not accepting recyclables from the United States. China is one of the biggest reusers of recyclables from the United States. Because of the law, the trickle-down effect is costing the town to get rid of the recyclables rather than getting money for the recyclables. She also explained it is still better to recycle than not to recycle because it does cost less to move just the recyclables rather than the cost of the moving the bulk containers.

Another idea we talked about was having an area at the transfer station that was enclosed to leave furniture that was still in good condition rather than filling the bulk container with good furniture. People or dealers could come in and reuse old sofa, couch, chairs or tables instead of throwing it out. Another topic was having a place to store good pieces of lumber, boards, or plywood. Again, people would have the ability to come and pick out pieces of wood that could be reused. We said the biggest obstacle with any of these ideas would be the need to police and someone would need to be there at all times that the transfer station was open. Unfortunately, none of us has that kind of spare time. We will call these ideas for the future.

Joan also brought up the recycling at both, of the Rye schools. She said she feels the students get educated about recycling, but that all that education gets undone either at home, because people don't recycle at home or when they get to the junior high level, because there isn't enough recycling done at the junior high.

I told Helen that I would send her the old recycling brochures to use as examples. We can add ideas and add more venues to bring recyclable items too.

The meeting concluded at 7:02pm.

Next meeting is June 19, 2018 at 6:30pm at the Library.

Respectfully submitted,

John Provencher

"Recycle; Keep it out of the Land."