

Candia Recycling & Energy Committee
Public Meeting Minutes
October 22, 2020

Attendance:

Committee members:, Gail Thomas, Dick Snow, and Al Couch.
Clay Caddy attended via Zoom as he was away.

Also attending were Swap Shop volunteers Cinny Griswold, Anne Lacey, Pamela McKenny, Nancy Parkman, Lori Lambert, and Matt Cogswell.

Dick Snow ran the Zoom program to have the meeting available online.

The purpose of this meeting was to discuss if the Swap Shop should be kept open or not during the winter months based on COVID 19 concerns. One of the main concerns is having the volunteers confined in the Swap Shop with limited ventilation. During warmer times, the volunteers have been overseeing the Swap Shop from outside the building.

The plan that had been set up, based on discussion at the previous meeting, was to totally close the Swap Shop on November 8th, and re-open when it was warm enough in the spring.

Matt said the Swap Shop continues to be very busy, and he feels that residents would be upset if the Swap Shop were to be totally closed for the winter. He said he is willing to deal with the cold weather and would be willing to open it on Saturday and Sunday mornings. Matt said he could use an N 95 mask for protection. He said he works as an apartment inspector for the city of Manchester, and when he is working he wears the special N 95 mask which keeps him protected, unlike the standard masks which do not protect the wearer. Al suggested that we could get some N 95 masks for any volunteers that would continue to work at the Swap Shop. It was felt that this would be an acceptable way to properly protect volunteers. Al also suggested that we get a large container of hand sanitizer for volunteers and residents visiting the Swap Shop.

The consensus of the group was that with these precautions the Swap Shop could remain open during the winter. Additional guidelines would also be set up to protect volunteers and residents.

After discussion on other things that should be required for residents in the Swap Shop, the following guidelines will be set up to add additional protection for everyone:

- Limit the Swap Shop hours- Saturday 8 am to noon, Sunday 8 am to 11 am
- Masks must be worn by everyone entering the Swap Shop
- Limit of four people in the building at a time.

Matt also suggested setting up an air purifier. He said they had one dropped off there recently and they would set that up for use.

Everyone was pleased with the discussion and the ideas that were put in place for keeping the Swap Shop open.

After the Swap Shop discussion was finished, Al gave an update on the project to gather information to get quotes for having the street lights converted to LED. He said that when he spoke to Eversource, they suggested that they put together an updated street light ledger, which would give us the latest information on the number of street lights and other useful information. He has not yet heard back from Eversource, but he will contact them again to see if the ledger would be available soon.

Respectfully Submitted,
Al Couch, Recycling & Energy Committee member