

Candia Recycling & Energy Committee  
Public Meeting Minutes  
December 29, 2020

Attendance:

Committee members Clay Caddy, Russ Dann, Dick Snow, and Al Couch.

Dick Snow set up the meeting to be available on Zoom.

Dick Snow discussed the Moore School Energy Efficiency Investments proposal to see if the Recycling & Energy Committee might want to meet with the School Board to discuss the proposal and help them with it. After extensive discussion Russ said he would call the school board chairman and ask if he thinks there would be any benefit for the Recycling & Energy Committee to become involved.

Candia resident Pattie Davis joined the meeting via Zoom to discuss the program she set up to recycle plastic bags. She said that bags are currently being collected at the Smyth Public Library and she is recycling them to benefit the local 4-H club. Pattie brings the bags to collection locations at Hannaford or Market Basket, and keeps a log of the weight of each load of bags. The store collection locations then send the bags to Trex who uses them to manufacture high-end composite wood style products, such as composite boards and outdoor furniture. Awards are given for quantities above 500 lbs. The participation awards are made out of Trex material, and first- place winners receive a Trex bench. The program not only helps the 4-H group, but gives people an easy way to recycle plastic bags, and this also keeps the material out of landfills.

Dick asked Pattie to give the committee the information on her collection program to see if there was the possibility to set up a collection area at the Recycling Center. After discussion on the idea, it was decided that due to logistical issues, it would probably not be beneficial to set up collection at the Recycling Center. Al said he would contact Trex to see if there are any possibilities to add plastic bags to the existing recycling programs.

Dick mentioned "The Furrow" magazine which is produced by John Deere. He says it has some very interesting and informative ideas on natural sustainability.

Dick also discussed the idea he saw on a flyer that local resident Cody Wood put together. The flyer gives details on his idea to use a storage trailer at the Recycling Center to use as a billboard for local businesses to advertise on. There were mixed opinions on the idea, and it was decided that Cody Wood should be invited to our January meeting to discuss his idea.

LED street light conversion was discussed. Al has been working with Eversource to gather information on Candia's street lights and sent the information to Lighting Retrofit Services to get a general idea of the cost of retrofitting the lights. LRS was the company that retrofitted the Recycling Center last year, and the savings have been even better than they projected, which will be about a 3.5 year payback, plus the savings in maintenance. This information gave the committee the motivation to look at conversion of the street lights.

The LRS quote was around \$16 k for the conversion, which would include an Eversource rebate. The consensus was that the cost was reasonable enough to move ahead and get a specific quote from LRS and other retrofit companies. The information will be put together in a report for the Board to review.

Next meeting will be Thursday, January 28, 6:30 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Al Couch, Recycling & Energy Committee member