

Candia Recycling & Energy Committee  
Public Meeting Minutes  
January 26, 2023

Attendance:

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

Recycling Center site work- Russ has gotten quotes to have the brush and the compost bunkers re-positioned and re-built, as they are in very bad condition. Russ has also set up a warrant article to fund the project.

There was a review and discussion on the warrant article for the site work and re-building of the bunkers. The Household Hazardous Waste Day warrant article was also reviewed and discussed.

Recycling categories were discussed. Some of the recycling items are getting a very good return right now. Russ said that Chuck recently shipped out a truckload of aluminum cans, and the town received a return of \$24,000 for the load. Cardboard is also doing very well right now. Other categories are still doing alright, but Russ mentioned that glass is costing \$35 per ton to dispose of. This is because it is hard to find a practical way to recycle it. It can be used as a substitute for sand for road fill, but it needs to be shipped to someone who can process it. Also, the logistics of having the material shipped back to use for road fill would need to be worked out. The consensus was that this is not a viable way to re-use the material. It was also mentioned that it would be nice if we could find a way to encourage residents to use aluminum containers rather than glass containers whenever possible.

Russ asked what new energy projects the committee could undertake. The committee has previously implemented energy savings by setting up purchasing power at lower rates, and implementing conversion of lighting to LED for the Recycling Center, the street lights, and for other town owned lights. Because we are now well aware of the savings of converting to LED, Al suggested that we could work on a plan to try to encourage residents to convert their house to LED. Russ suggested that we ask the company that did the town lights, Affinity Lighting, if they sell the LED bulbs they produce locally to the public. Affinity only does work on town and commercial projects, but Russ said we should find out if they would just sell their LED bulbs. Al said he would call them and see if they might offer their LED bulbs to residents.

Solar power- There was discussion on solar but it was felt that using solar energy would be very difficult to do because of the issues involved in setting up a solar array. The concerns are: finding a suitable piece of land to install solar, the need to have 3-phase power nearby, and the high cost of the installation of a system. Also, visually a solar array is not very appealing. Russ also mentioned that when the life- span of solar panels are over the panels are very difficult to recycle. It was felt that we should hold off on solar for now.

Swap Shop storage- Volunteers at the Swap Shop have asked if the storage area could be improved. Clay and Al will plan to meet at the Swap Shop to try to come up with some ideas.

The next meeting will be February 23 at 6:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted, Al Couch, Recycling & Energy Committee member