

Candia Recycling & Energy Committee  
Public Meeting Minutes  
January 25, 2024

Attendance:

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

Storage trailers- Russ and Clay have looked at two old trailers that could work well for additional storage at the Recycling Center. The trailers have been left on the Blevens property for many years, but are still useable as they would be able to keep things stored in them dry. The property has been recently sold, and the new owners said that we could take them at no charge. Clay said he could work to remove the axles from them after they are moved so they would sit on the ground to make storage access easy. He would also remove the fender wells from inside the trailers to make access to the whole trailer work. They would have to find a way to have the trailers moved to the Recycling Center. Russ said he would contact the police department to arrange for them to escort the trailers to the site. They just need to find someone that had the equipment to haul them at a reasonable price. Clay said that the brakes would also have to be worked on for the wheels to function properly. They also need to work out a good location at the site to set them up.

Gail asked about the return that the town gets on recycling commodities. As the pricing changes often, it is hard to keep track of pricing without access to the NRRRA pricing online. Even though the town is a member, individual committee members cannot access the pricing information because they are not registered as members on the NRRRA site. Al said he would contact the NRRRA to see if they could provide access for committee members based on the town's membership.

Reuse of clean wood- We have been working on coming up with ideas for storage of clean wood that people bring to the Recycling Center that is left-over from projects. ('Clean wood' means wood that has no paint, stain, or nails in it.) If we can make it accessible, then clean wood could be taken away by residents and be re-used. This would benefit residents and would also save the town the cost of transporting and landfilling it.

Finding a place to store the clean wood has been an on-going effort. One idea was suggested to be looked at would be to use a couple of pallet-racks near the oil disposal area. One rack could hold clean wood, and the other could be used for car batteries and electronics. As tires are also stored in this area, we would have to make sure there would be enough room for the tires. Also, Clay was asked if would be possible to put a slanted roof on the top of the racks to keep stored items drier than they are now in the open. Clay said that would be something that he could do.

Discussion on plastic bag recycling- The relatively new recycling of plastic bags is going well so far, but it was felt that improvements could be made. The container they are stored in is a plain looking cardboard barrel. Al was able to get some large plastic cardboard containers made for recycling plastic bags, provided by Trex at no charge. The containers are not being used yet. When Joe at the Recycling Center was asked about that, he said the bags he has will not fit into the new Trex containers. Gail looked up information on this, and said she will place an order for some larger bags and will give them to the Recycling Center. The front of the new containers displays a list of acceptable items, which includes many more items than most people think. Committee members looked at the list and were also surprised. It was also felt that a better location for the containers should also be worked out. For us to recycle the bags, they must be brought to one of the locations listed on the Trex "Recycling Partners" list. Al said that he had spoken to Trex several times, because some of the stores the Trex list will not accept the large quantity that we are collecting. Joe said he was bringing about 9 large bags a week, which weight about 50- 75 pounds. He has been able to bring the bags to the Hannaford store in Northwood, but it's about a 20 mile trip. Al and Joe are working on finding a closer location to bring them to.

Al said he would like to pass along the fact that he sees regular Facebook posts complimenting nice things that have been picked up at the Swap Shop that people have really enjoyed. It is very nice to hear that people are enjoying the items that are picked up there and it is also good because it is saving the town the cost of transporting and landfilling those items.

The Next meeting will be held on Thursday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Respectfully Submitted,

Al Couch, Recycling & Energy Committee member