

## **Minutes of the August 21, 2012 ANJR Board of Directors Meeting at the Ridge at Back Brook Country Club, Ringoes, NJ**

**Members Present:** D. D’Altilio, B. Fiedler, M. Gismondi, R. Hutchinson, B. Peterson, M. Vangieri, D. Caputo, R. Casapulla, W. DeFeo, A. Giordano Sr., P. Jones, A. Kontovrakis, E. Kuhlwein, J. McNellis, J. Mulligan, D. Napoleon, N. Paquette, J. Pellichero, M. Quinn, G. Russell, G. Sondermeyer for J. Solewski, C. Tolmachewich, M. Vastano, M. Williams, A. Yoss, M. Kruzan

**Members Absent:** D. DeMatte

**Members Excused:** J. Clark, M. Fisher, P. McGaheran, A. Moore

**Guests:** Guy Watson, NJDEP

**Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order at 10:19 A.M. An attendance sheet was circulated in lieu of roll call.

**Approval of Minutes** – The minutes of the June 19, 2012 meeting were distributed via e-mail prior to the meeting. A. Giordano Sr. made a motion to approve the minutes. Ron Hutchinson seconded; all were in favor.

### **Correspondence:**

Dominick D’Altilio informed the Board that correspondence was received from Valerie Montecalvo asking to resign from the Board. Valerie recommended Jennifer Solewski, of Bayshore Recycling to replace her. Donna Caputo made a motion to accept Valerie’s resignation and to replace her with Jennifer Solewski; Bernie Peterson seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Dominick also reported that ANJR was contacted by Frank Brill regarding the issue of Plastic vs. Paper bags. This topic has become a secondary topic discussed at the NJ Senate and Assembly environmental committees’ annual, joint summer session. Suggestions included the need for legislation banning or adding fees on the use of plastic grocery bags. There are currently seven bills pending in the Legislature concerning recycling or phasing out non-compostable single-use plastic bags and offering reusable bags for purchase. Frank wants to know if ANJR has an opinion regarding this issue. Many points of view were provided including: Penny Jones stated that this is more of a clean communities (litter) issue; Janet Pellichero stated that this is a “no win” situation; Gray Russell stated that ANJR can use this as a teaching tool to promote reusable bags. Gray stated that a ban is extremely difficult to enforce. Reenee Casapulla stated that ANJR should focus on developing recycling markets for the plastic.

After much discussion the board decided to remain neutral regarding this topic and Gary Sondermeyer stated that he will research this and provide the board with additional information.

### **Officers’ Reports**

#### **President’s Report**

Dominick D’Altilio thanked Anthony Giordano and Integrity Recycling and Waste Solutions for hosting the meeting.

#### **Vice Presidents:**

Administration:

Barbara Fiedler had no report.

Program:

Monica Gismondi reported that the Symposium Planning committee has met a couple of road blocks. They are still trying to secure speakers. The symposium will have an election (red, white and blue) theme, jobs in recycling will be presented and public space containers – What Works, What Does Not – will be presented. Monica passed around sheets for board members to sign-up to help set-up and break down the symposium. A sheet also was passed around for the board members to list items that they will donate for the symposium auction. Monica also stated that there will be a short symposium planning meeting following the board meeting.

Marie Kruzan asked, via email, for volunteers to help the NJDEP judge the recycling awards applications. Mark Vangieri, Renee Casapulla and Isaac Manning each volunteered to review the applications. Dominick D’Altilio thanked them, for volunteering.

Development: Ron Hutchinson has volunteered to be the chairman of the Leonard Grant Committee. The committee met on August 2<sup>nd</sup> and Ron reported that the following was discussed:

1. The possibility of spending the money on social media program
2. Scholarship to attend the REA class
3. Develop a brochure for small businesses recycling
4. Promote school recycling
5. School contest to promote recycling
6. Statewide promotional campaign for recycling

Ron reported that the committee felt it is too expensive and difficult to measure success for a social media campaign. The committee also stated that they felt there is not enough money available to develop a statewide promotional campaign for recycling. The committee stated that this is a function of the NJDEP.

Ron asked if the Board had any other suggestions and Monica Gismondi suggested that we purchase educational DVD’s for distribution to schools. Nancy Paquette stated the Board should consider an enforcement program for schools.

Treasurer: Bernie Peterson read the treasurer’s report. Gray Russell made a motion to file the report for audit. Melinda Williams seconded; all were in favor.

Secretary – No report.

**Executive Director’s Report:**

Marie Kruzan reported that the third mailing for the July membership renewal has been mailed out. Marie also stated that ANJR has a new inner circle member – Covanta.

**Committee Reports**

Class A Committee:

Gary Sondermeyer stated that the committee has written a letter and it has been submitted to Dominick D'Altilio for review.

Legislative Committee:

Carole Tolmachewich reported that REA funds have been diverted to the NJDEP. Carole reported that Middlesex County sent a letter to the NJDEP questioning this. Middlesex County received a response from Jane Kozinski justifying the DEP taking the money. Ms. Kozinski's letter stated that municipalities and counties should not be adversely affected by this, however, it may affect universities.

Carole asked the Board if we should take a more active role in stopping the NJDEP from taking this money. Wayne DeFeo stated that the only way to stop this is to actively lobby against it. Gary Sondermeyer agreed. Dominick D'Altilio stated that ANJR will develop a working group to address lobbying to stop the money from being taken.

**NJDEP Report:**

Guy Watson reported the following.

County Plan Amendment Certifications – Recycling Component:

Guy reported that when counties submit plan amendments to the NJDEP the certifications are including additional recycling components that need to be addressed by the counties.

Recycling Letter to Mayors:

Guy reported that in early September the NJDEP will be sending letters to Mayors informing them that their town is either doing a good job recycling, a not so good job recycling, or that they are not doing well at all.

E-waste collection problems:

Guy reported that e-waste manufacturers who have reached their recycling quotas want to stop paying recyclers for collecting e-waste. Guy stated that the manufacturer's quotes may need to be reevaluated.

**New Business:**

Gary Sondermeyer stated that Jean Clark has fallen and is in a rehabilitation facility. If anyone wants to send her a get well note she is at: Cranes Mill, 459 Passaic Avenue, West Caldwell, NJ 07006.

**Adjournment** – Ron Hutchinson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dan Napoleon seconded; all were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 12:15 PM. The September meeting will be held at the Rutgers EcoComplex, in Bordentown on September 18, 2012 at noon.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mark Vangieri, Secretary