

The New Jersey WasteWise Business Network

November 7, 2018

To: Members and Prospective Members of the
New Jersey WasteWise Business Network

From: Steven Rinaldi, Chair
New Jersey WasteWise Business Network
NJDEP, Bureau of Energy and Sustainability

Subject: Minutes from the Network meeting of November 1, 2018

Minutes:

Special Note: Thank you again to all who donated breakfast foods/coffee for the meeting! And thanks to all who donated food to the Community FoodBank of New Jersey. Your generosity is greatly appreciated! SR

Next Meeting: The next meeting of the New Jersey WasteWise Business Network will take place on **Thursday, May 9, 2019** in Hamilton, NJ.

Welcome –Network Chair Steve Rinaldi (Steven.Rinaldi@dep.nj.gov) welcomed everyone and explained that the New Jersey WasteWise Business Network is the New Jersey chapter of the USEPA’s national WasteWise program, which is a program designed to help businesses and other organizations learn how waste reduction, recycling and recycled product procurement not only help the environment, but also their bottom line. Steve discussed the DEP’s annual recycling awards program and noted that four of the ten award winners are members of the New Jersey WasteWise Business Network (Atlantic County Utilities Authority, Delaware River and

Bay Authority – Cape May Ferry Terminal, New Jersey Resources and Sustainable Jersey). Steve also mentioned that America Recycles Day (ARD), the only nationally-recognized day dedicated to promoting and celebrating recycling in the United States, was coming up on November 15 and that it was not too late to plan an ARD event. Additional information on ARD can be found at www.americarecyclesday.org.

Food Donation and its Positive Impact on Waste Reduction – Tim Vogel, Director of Food Sourcing, Community FoodBank of New Jersey, tvogel@cfbnj.org – Community FoodBank of New Jersey is part of **Feeding America**, the nation’s largest hunger relief organization. Mr. Vogel explained that 1 in 10 people in New Jersey are food insecure, meaning that they do not know where their next meal will be coming from and that 1 in 7 New Jersey children are food insecure. The Community FoodBank of New Jersey distributed over 58 million pounds of food to more than 900,000 NJ residents in 2017. In addition to providing food for the needy, this also kept 58 million pounds of food from being disposed as trash. Companies and organizations interested in conducting a food drive are encouraged to do so but need to be aware that food banks cannot receive food items without an ingredients label, not in containers nor bread in open bags, among other stipulations. Mr. Vogel noted that food donations are fully protected from civil and criminal liability under the Bill Emerson Good Samaritan Food Donation Act. (PowerPoint to be available at www.anjr.com)

Is Zero Waste Still a Realistic Goal Given the Challenges of Today’s Recycling Market? – Michael Buono, Director of Program Development, Environmental Service Management Group, Inc., m.buono@esmg.com - Mr. Buono explained that zero waste is defined as a 90% diversion from landfill or incineration, as per a consensus reached by the Zero Waste International Alliance, the Grass Roots Recycling Network and the Zero Waste Business Council. He stated that zero waste requires a full commitment to the highest and best value principles of the waste management hierarchy. Furthermore, he explained that there are four essential components to zero waste – program design, management coordination, market development and measurement verification. Mr. Buono highlighted the many companies around the country that have already been certified as zero waste companies as proof that a zero waste goal is still feasible even with today’s recycling markets. In addition, examples of New Jersey projects that achieved zero waste were discussed, including a zero waste program in a business office, as well as several in construction and demolition projects. (PowerPoint to be available at www.anjr.com)

What’s New in Scrap Tire Recycling/Management – Mary Sikora, President, Recycling Research Institute and Publisher/Editor of the Scrap Tire News, mary@scraptirenews.com - Ms. Sikora noted that almost 250 million scrap tires are generated annually in the United States and that almost 97% of these tires are properly managed. In addition, she was happy to report that the vast majority of illegal scrap tire dumpsites around the country have been cleaned up over the past two decades. Ms. Sikora discussed the numerous end markets for scrap tires and stated that tire derived fuel was still the largest end market for scrap tires. In addition, the crumb rubber market, which includes the rubber asphalt market, was examined. New Jersey’s successful use of rubber asphalt on Rt. 295 in Mercer County was highlighted. The use of recycled rubber infill in turf athletic fields was also reviewed. Ms. Sikora stated that recycled scrap tire rubber is also used as landscaping mulch, equestrian track surfacing and playground cover. She also noted that molded and extruded products and tire-derived aggregate are other

important end markets for recycled scrap tires. Lastly, Ms. Sikora looked at the export market, which remains strong and is growing. In 2017, an estimated 18-20 million scrap tires were exported to overseas markets. Ms. Sikora also looked at future trends and stated that advances in technology could open new markets for scrap tires and rubber and mentioned that the tire pyrolysis process is moving toward commercialization. Ms. Sikora concluded by highlighting several new unique and innovative products made from scrap tires. (PowerPoint to be available at www.anjr.com)

Going Beyond the Traditional Recyclable Materials – Lisa Hamilton, Senior Environmental Engineer, NJ Natural Gas Company, LHamilton@NJNG.com - While New Jersey Resources recycles traditional materials, such as paper, cardboard, bottles and cans, the company goes well above and beyond these materials and has implemented reuse and recycling programs for numerous non-traditional recyclable materials. Motor oil, tires, wood waste, antifreeze, batteries, electronics, baskets, bicycles, binders, blankets, books, cell phones, coats, corks, drums, eyeglasses, furniture, grease, home goods, office supplies, packaging materials, plastic bags and film, plastic pipes and vases are just some of the non-traditional materials recycled at New Jersey Resources. Ms. Hamilton indicated that the company's 52% recycling rate would be considerably higher if this non-traditional materials recycling was factored into the equation. She mentioned that a committee was first formed to look at the company's environmental programs and from this an environmental policy was created. Ms. Hamilton highlighted a few of the key steps in getting started, which are: get enthusiastic, recruit/assemble a team, assess/document current programs and obtain a company baseline, set small goals (i.e., expand existing programs or begin "easy" new programs), network, find vendors who will do the work for you, collect statistics and calculate "green" statistics, continually promote and educate others about your program and periodically review your program. She also discussed some of the program pitfalls that might be encountered along the way, such as lack of employee participation, and stressed the importance of getting the support of management. New Jersey Resources' Environmental Committee promotes the company's recycling and waste reduction programs in many ways, including through email blasts, newsletters, Earth Day events, roadway cleanup events, their Green Leaf company award program, luncheon events for staff and more. (PowerPoint to be available at www.anjr.com)

The following is the registration list for the 11/1/18 meeting:

Speakers:

Steve Rinaldi, NJDEP, Bureau of Energy and Sustainability, Steven.Rinaldi@dep.nj.gov
Tim Vogel, Community FoodBank of New Jersey, tvogel@cfnj.org
Michael Buono, Environmental Services Management Group, Inc., m.buono@esmg.com
Mary Sikora, Recycling Research Institute/Scrap Tire News, mary@scraptirenews.com
Lisa Hamilton, New Jersey Resources/NJ Natural Gas Company, LHamilton@NJNG.com

Attendees:

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SR: Minutes November 1 2018