

**Tuesday, November 28, 2023**  
**Garibaldi Hall, Essex County Environmental Center, Roseland**

Len Waterman, Vice-Chairman, called the meeting to order at 1:08pm.

The Open Public Meetings Statement was read by Mr. DeFeo.

Thirteen Members or Municipal Representatives and two from DeFeo Associates present.  
A new member Stacie Phelps, Millburn was introduced.

The minutes for the September meeting were approved with no changes.

**Chairperson's Comments** – Mr. Waterman inquired whether or not anyone was using Turn Key Enterprises for textile recycling. Some towns do and a discussion followed with favorable comments. It was also noted that Turnkey has been a member and serves on the Board of ANJR. Mr. DeFeo asked if it would be helpful if Turnkey makes a presentation at the January SWAC/MRC meeting., members were in favor.

**Committee Reports:**

**A. ECUA – DeFeo Associates** – Mr. DeFeo reported:

Mr. DeFeo reported on the 2023 HHW & E-waste events. 1,300 vehicles for Ewaste and 1,080 for HHW. The 2024 dates are May 4<sup>th</sup> 8:30 – 4:00 for HHW and May 18, 9:00 – 3:00 for Ewaste, as usual the town my bring material the day before.

He also reported that discussion is underway with the Ewaste vendor that would allow the residents to drop off window air conditioners, dehumidifiers and microwaves. For the HHW event, there is no decision yet on accepting cylinders and tanks such as oxygen and helium and metal cutting gases are not accepted.

There was a discussion on the 2024 Disposal rates. Mr. DeFeo reported that the ECUA no longer has debt associated with the RRF, and that to the best of his knowledge, Essex is the only county in the state with a RRF that has fully paid off their debt

Mr. D'Altilio spoke about the 2023 MTG and that nothing has been released from the DEP yet. Also, he asked that the members let him know if there are any changes to official SWAC membership pending for the new year.

**B. Health Department Report**

Mr. Pilas reported via email that the 2023 DEP Solid Waste inspections were complete and that Essex County has a new DEP contact/rep Robert Clark.

**C. Facilities Reports:**

- a. **AERI** – No report - No representative in attendance.
- b. **Covanta** – No report - No representative in attendance.
- c. **Waste Management** – No report - No representative in attendance..

**Old/Continuing Business:**

- A. **ANJR** – Mr. DeFeo inquired if there were any new ANJR members. There were none.
- B. **Markets Report Update** – Mr. DeFeo reported that the markets for fiber, especially OCC are up and should remain stable through the winter. He commented on wet fiber and the use of carts for collection. There was a discussion on the pros and cons of a cart system in Essex County Communities.

**New Business:**

- A. **Compost Bin & Rain Barrell Sale** – Mr. DeFeo inquired if any town would be interested in a County sponsored sale of Compost Bins and Rain Barrells. No one present said they would have any interest in such a program due to lack of interest overall. He reminded the members that the County holds a sale every year at the Environmental Center and interested residents should be referred to that event.
  - a. The members were then asked about their experience with individual programs by town. The response was not positive.
- B. **Election of Officers** – Mr. Waterman was nominated as Chairperson and Louise Palagano Vice-Chairperson. There were no other nominations and a vote was taken and they were unanimously elected.
- C. **2024 Meeting Dates** – The members voted to keep the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of odd numbered months as the meeting day and to hold meetings at the Garibaldi Hall, Essex County Environmental Center at 1:00.

**Member's Comments:**

- A. **Food Waste Program** – Ms. Phelps spoke about Millburn expanding their food waste program with Java Composting. The program is limited and there is a fee associated with the program. Residents bring their food waste to the Town Yard and deposit it in locked containers. To enroll they view a Zoom training session, completing a brief quiz, and submit an annual \$60 registration fee. Once enrolled, participants receive a 5-gallon pail and a set of compostable bags. Mr. DeFeo asked if there was interest in Java Composting being invited to make a presentation at the January SWAC/MRC meeting., members were in favor

**Public Comments: - None**

**Adjournment** - A motion was made and seconded and the Meeting was adjourned at 2:01 pm.