

MEETING MINUTES: City of Philadelphia Solid Waste and Recycling Advisory Committee (SWRAC)

DATE: February 25th, 2016

ATTENDEES:

SWRAC Members Present

Michelle Feldman, Keep Philadelphia Beautiful
Fern Gookin, Revolution Recovery
Bob Anderson, ReCommunity Recycling
Phil Bresee, Streets Department/Recycling Office
Jack Embick, Environmental Law
Emily Hill, Philadelphia Water Department (for Paul Kohl)
Sal Iadonisi, Newman Paper Co.
Don Lucy, Waste Management (for Chuck Raudenbush)
Andrew Sharp, Office of Sustainability

Others Present

Christine Knapp, Director, Office of Sustainability

City Staff/Consultants

Scott McGrath, Director of Environmental Services, Streets Dept.
Marisa Lau, Streets - Recycling Office
Allison Sands, Recycling Office/Recyclebank
Erin Cartwright, Recycling Office/Recyclebank
Jim Osborn, Alternative Resources, Inc.

Call to order/introductions: The meeting was called to order by SWRAC co-chair Michelle Feldman at approximately 3 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes from the January 26th meeting were approved via voice vote (Bresee move, Anderson 2nd).

Organics Subcommittee Report (Emily Hill for Paul Kohl):

- Terry Keene (MSW Consultants) discussed the status of the organics feasibility study and provided an updated work plan. He is working with Streets to finalize organics generation numbers. The next step is a market place assessment for organics disposal; at the meeting, Terry identified a draft list of facilities with where they hope to conduct surveys. The group provided feedback on the current list.
- Parks & Recreation discussed their potential for increasing their composting efforts. They continue to participate in the subcommittee and share pertinent information as it becomes available.

Solid Waste Plan Goals & Objectives Subcommittee Report (Bresee):

- The goals and objectives subcommittee met on February 22nd. Bresee said that the sustainability and environment section from the Kenney Administration's transition plan was shared with subcommittee members.
- The subcommittee has formed consensus around recommendation of a zero waste goal.
- Bresee distributed a table which summarizes subcommittee discussions and initial recommendations. He advised the SWRAC that a zero waste goal will not just require programmatic actions, but also policy actions at the local and state levels.
- Bresee reported that it is looking more likely that the goals subcommittee's recommendations may not be complete by the time the solid waste plan is ready for final review. He said that recommendations and deliberations will be incorporated into chapter 5, and in an appendix.

Remarks by Christine Knapp, Director of the City of Philadelphia Office of Sustainability: Christine Knapp provided a brief overview of the Office of Sustainability's next phase of work, principally updating the Nutter Administration's comprehensive Greenworks plan. She indicated that her office would be reaching out to SWRAC and SWRAC members as part of the discussion around recycling and waste reduction goal development.

Solid Waste Plan Update (Jim Osborn): Jim Osborn provided a verbal update on the status of the plan. A draft has been submitted to DEP for its review and the goals and recommendations that emerge from the goals subcommittee will need to be incorporated into chapter 5. Bresee passed around hard copies of the draft for committee perusal.

Public Outreach Meetings (Michelle Feldman): Ms. Feldman and Bresee indicated that the Recycling Office will task LevLane with developing and facilitating at least one public outreach meeting that meets the plan requirements. Ms. Feldman said SWRAC input will be welcome and that there will be a call for volunteers.

Informational Items and Announcements: Mr. Bresee, Mr. McGrath and Ms. Feldman updated the committee on the upcoming Block Captain Rally (3/19), Philly Spring Cleanup (4/9), and Keep Philadelphia Beautiful Earth Day cleanup at Hunting Park Recreation Center.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:40 p.m.