

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

DATE: November 19th, 2015

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
Paul Kohl, Philadelphia Water Department
Maurice M. Sampson II, Niche Recycling
Vivian Van Story, Community Land Partnership
Sal Iadonisi, Newman Paper Co.
Gerry Methven, Waste Management (alternate for Chuck Raudenbush)
Andrew Sharp, Mayor's Office of Sustainability (alternate for Katherine Gajewski)
Megan Garner, Philadelphia School District (alternate for Francine Locke)
Katie Edwards, Clean Air Council (alternate for Joe Minot)

Others Present

Shoshana Bricklin, Office of Councilwoman Cindy Bass
Mike Giuranna, US EPA
Kemery Heinold, Rehrig Pacific Co.

City Staff/Consultants

Scott McGrath, Director of Environmental Services, Streets Dept.
Jim Osborn, ARI
Terry Keene, MSW Consultants
Allison Sands, Recyclebank
Erin Cartwright, Recyclebank

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 November 5th meeting were approved via voice vote (Bresee move, Sharp 2nd).

Organics Subcommittee Report: This report was deferred until the next regular SWRAC meeting.

Reconsideration of City Council Bill No. 150748: The SWRAC co-chairs explained that an up or down vote from SWRAC on Council bill was the desired outcome from the meeting. The SWRAC co-chairs allotted 30 minutes for debate and final consideration.

City of Philadelphia Recycling Director Phil Bresee informed SWRAC that Bill No. 150748 is scheduled to be heard by City Council's Streets & Services Committee on November 30th, beginning at 1 p.m.

Bresee summarized previous SWRAC discussions on the ordinance, which occurred on October 22nd and November 5th. SWRAC members were also given until November 13th to provide additional comments, with written comments provided by Jack Embick, and comments from Vivian Van Story received via phone conversation. Mr. Embick's comments served as the primary basis for the discussion, with Katie Edwards and Maurice Sampson providing supporting arguments. The comments and responses are summarized and attached as part of Exhibit 1.

Near the end of the discussion, Shoshana Bricklin, Legislative Director for Councilwoman Cindy Bass reiterated that the Councilwoman was willing to amend the bill in committee based on comments from SWRAC. She also suggested that the timing is not right for bringing a bill with some of the strategic goals and content as advocated by some SWRAC members to City Council.

At close of the debate the co-chairs indicated that a roll-call vote would be taken to ensure members' votes are noted for the official record.

Phil Bresee offered a two-part motion (with second by Fern Gookin):

1. To approve staff's recommendation that the SWRAC support Council Bill No. 150748.
2. To authorize Streets Department and Council staff to modify certain whereas statements and to amend the bill accordingly in the Streets and Services Committee.

The roll-call votes were cast accordingly:

Feldman	Aye
Gookin	Aye
Anderson	Aye
Bresee	Aye
Edwards	No
Embick	No
Garner	Aye
Iadonisi	Aye
Kohl	Aye
Sampson	Abstain
Sharp	Aye
VanStory	Abstain
Methven	Abstain

The motion(s) carried with 8 ayes, 2 no's and 3 abstentions. This would be communicated to City Council as part of the Streets Department's testimony during the November 30th meeting of the Streets and Services Committee.

Establishment of Solid Waste Plan Goals & Objectives Working Group: SWRAC co-chair Michelle Feldman discussed the formation of a subcommittee to frame the goals and objectives for the 10-year solid waste management plan. Bresee noted that the draft plan is nearly complete, and that while SWRAC programmatic and policy thoughts and recommendations are incorporated, specific metrics and goals have yet to be fully discussed. The following SWRAC members/meeting attendees expressed an interest in serving on the subcommittee:

- Katie Edwards
- Jack Embick
- Maurice Sampson
- Andrew Sharp
- Michelle Feldman
- Phil Bresee
- Scott McGrath

Informational Items and Announcements:

- America Recycles Day – Activities from this year’s ARD included receipt of a resolution from City Council that recognized November 15th as ARD, and a distribution of recycling bins in City Council Offices.
- On November 13th the Streets Department officially opened its sixth sanitation convenience center in the Port Richmond neighborhood.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:30 p.m.