

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

DATE: March 26th, 2015

LOCATION: City of Philadelphia Municipal Services Building

ATTENDEES:

SWRAC Members Present

Bob Anderson, ReCommunity Recycling
Phil Bresee, Streets Department/Recycling Office
Jack Embick, Environmental Law
Michelle Feldman, Keep Philadelphia Beautiful
Paul Kohl, Philadelphia Water Department
Sal Iadonisi, U.S. Recycling
Maurice M. Sampson II, Niche Recycling
Vivian Van Story, Community Land Trust Corp.

SWRAC Members Absent

Jeff Cardwell, Philadelphia School District
Katherine Gajewski, Mayor's Office of Sustainability
Dan Garafolo, University of Pennsylvania
Charles Raudenbush, Waste Management
Debbie Zimmer, Dow Chemical
Fern Gookin, Revolution Recovery

Others Present

Katie Bartollata, PennFuture
Wayne Bowen, Pennsylvania Recycling Markets Center
Michael Roles, Clean Water Action
Laura Cassidy, Philadelphia Prison System
Mike Giuranna, US EPA Region III
Dylan Wells, Niche Recycling
Kemry Heinold, Rehrig Pacific

City Staff/Consultants

Scott McGrath, Director of Environmental Services, Streets Dept.
Jim Osborn, ARI
Allison Sands, Recyclebank/Recycling Office
Virginia Cain, Recyclebank/Recycling Office

Call to order/introductions:

The meeting was called to order by SWRAC co-chair Michelle Feldman at approximately 3:10 p.m.

Minutes:

Phil Bresee recommended that SWRAC defer action on the February 26th meeting minutes until the March meeting.

Presentation:

Wayne Bowen of the PA Recycling Markets Center delivered a presentation on his organizations role in helping develop end-markets for organics recycling in PA. Mr. Bowen's presentation will be made available to SWRAC in the drop-box folder.

Legislative Updates:

Phil Bresee reported that Council Bill No. 140903 (aka the O'Brien & Bass "dumpster bill") was signed into law by the Mayor. Streets Department staff will now need to examine and draft accompanying regulation.

Michelle Feldman spoke of the two anti-litter bills introduced (Bills 150198 & 150199, both introduced by Councilmembers Reynolds-Brown, Bass, and Squilla): one that places additional trash receptacle requirements on commercial entities serving food products, and one that places additional trash receptacle requirements on landlords of properties with more than six units.

Solid Waste Management Plan Update:

Several copies of the 2014-2024 Municipal Waste Management Plan (working draft dated 3-24-15) were made available at the meeting to illustrate progress in preparation of the document in accordance with PADEP requirements. It was noted that work is continuing on Chapter 5 Selection and Justification of Municipal Waste Management Program. Jim Osborn of ARI explained that the working draft has been updated to reflect 2013 solid waste data now available.

Except for Chapter 5, Chapters 1-13 of the working draft will be uploaded to the drop box.

Announcements/Updates:

Phil Bresee and Michelle Feldman reported that the SWRAC organics subcommittee met earlier in the day.

Phil Bresee announced that Ian Hegarty of the Recycling Office had recently taken a position with the City Planning Commission.

Scott McGrath provided an update on the Philly Spring Cleanup (PSC) and mentioned that as of earlier in the day some 596 projects had been registered, an amount that exceeds the 2014 total of 569. He also said that the project registration deadline was March 31st. The PSC event is set for Saturday, April 12th. The Block Captain Rally was held on Saturday, March 14th and that the Germantown area would be the focus of the day-of kick-off and press events.

Virginia Cain of Recyclebank & the Recycling Office updated SWRAC on the following:

- Streets Department, Recyclebank and KPBB's Philly Spring Cleanup project in partnership with New Kensington CDC ;
- Changes made to the Streets Department website;

- The Carton Council pilot educational project Recyclebank, Streets and KPB are working on (that consists of presentations in five schools, followed by meetings with school staff around how we can be of assistance with recycling efforts).

Adjournment and Next Meeting:

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:30 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on April 23rd.