

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

**DATE:** November 14, 2013

**ATTENDEES:**

SWRAC Members

Bob Anderson, ReCommunity Recycling  
Phil Bresee, Streets Department/Recycling Office  
Andrew Dalzell, South of South Neighborhood Association  
Jack Embick, Environmental Law  
Michele Feldman, Keep Philadelphia Beautiful  
Katherine Gajewski, Mayor's Office of Sustainability  
Dan Garafolo, University of Pennsylvania  
Fern Gookin, Revolution Recovery  
Sal Iadonisi, United States Recycling, Inc.  
Paul Kohl, Philadelphia Water Department  
Joe Minott, Clean Air Council  
Vivian Van Story, Community Land Trust Corp.  
Charles Raudenbush, Waste Management  
Maurice Sampson, Niche Recycling  
Andrew Sharp, PennFuture  
Debbie Zimmer, Dow Chemical

City Staff

Donald Carlton, Deputy Streets Commissioner  
Scott McGrath, Director of Environmental Services, Streets Dept.  
Susan McTamney, Streets Department/Recycling Office (Recording)

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The meeting was called to order at approximately 3:05 p.m.

Participants were welcomed by City staff, including Streets Deputy Commissioner Donald Carlton, Recycling Director Phil Bresee, and Environmental Services Director Scott McGrath. SWRAC member introductions then ensued.

Staff indicated that Ms. McTamney will perform recording secretary duties for SWRAC meetings, and that correspondence will flow through her as well.

Staff (Bresee, McGrath) provided SWRAC with a PowerPoint presentation that detailed the status of solid waste and recycling in Philadelphia, current recycling and solid waste programs, future recycling capacity, and Act 101 plan updates. Some changes from 2000 plan will include integration with Greenworks Plan, UnLitter Us, bio-solids management, 2012 disposal contracts, single-stream recycling, etc. A proposed timeline for development of the updated solid waste management plan was included as part of the presentation (see attached).

The matter of SWRAC chair has yet to be discussed. Staff indicated that the appointment is made by the mayor. Until a chair is appointed, staff will conduct the meetings.

Other discussions and comments included:

- Commercial recycling: There are still huge gaps in the potential recycling in this city. Such as condominiums, office buildings are struggling more so we have to help more. The Recycling Office staff is developing a revised business recycling toolkit, which will be downloadable. Business recycling web pages are also getting an update. Staff also indicated the need to revise the City's recycling ordinance.
- MSW and recycling data management: There were questions and comments on the accuracy and transparency of the City's recycling rate calculations. Staff indicated the statistics as shown in the presentation are "all-in" and include residential, commercial and C&D, similar to the way other jurisdictions count tonnages.
- The new solid waste management plan span the term of the three mayors. SWRAC should use this as an opportunity to consider the future and review options. There was discussion on whether disposal pricing would increase or decrease post current contracts (FY 2019 expiration).
- Waste Management's Spec FUEL© plant will be operational in about a month.
- The Philadelphia Water Department will be opening a cogeneration plant on November 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- There were brief discussions on the status of the InSinkErator food waste disposer project.
- Staff indicated that SWRAC may wish to establish subcommittees to focus on certain elements of MSW management, e.g. commercial recycling.

Meeting was convened at approximately 4:30 p.m. The next meeting will be held December 12, 2013 at 3 p.m. The meeting room number will be provided as part of meeting announcements and minutes to be distributed about a week prior to the meeting.

Submitted,

Susan McTamney (Recording)