

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

**DATE:** March 20, 2014

**ATTENDEES:**

SWRAC Members Present

Bob Anderson, ReCommunity Recycling  
Phil Bresee, Streets Department/Recycling Office  
Andrew Dalzell, South of South Neighborhood Association  
Jack Embick, Environmental Law  
Fern Gookin, Revolution Recovery  
Sal Iadonisi, United States Recycling, Inc.  
Paul Kohl, Philadelphia Water Department  
Vivian Van Story, Community Land Trust Corporation  
Charles Raudenbush, Waste Management  
Maurice Sampson, Niche Recycling  
Michele Feldman, Keep Philadelphia Beautiful

SWRAC Members Not-Present

Andrew Sharp, PennFuture  
Katherine Gajewski, Mayor's Office of Sustainability  
Jeff Cardwell, School District of Philadelphia  
Joe Minott, Clean Air Council  
Debbie Zimmer, Dow Chemical  
Dan Garafolo, University of Pennsylvania

Other Attendees

Ben Ditzler, RecycleNow  
Alisa Shargorodsky, Niche Recycling

City Staff

Donald Carlton, Streets Deputy Commissioner for Sanitation  
Scott McGrath, Director of Environmental Services, Streets Dept.  
Ian Hegarty, Recycling Planner, Streets Dept.  
Kyle Lewis, Office of the City Representative  
Conisha Davis, Streets Department/Recycling Office (Recording)

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**Call to order/introductions:**

The meeting was called to order at approximately 3:10 p.m.

### **Approval of Minutes:**

The minutes from the February 20<sup>th</sup> meeting were approved unanimously.

### **New Business (taken out of order in order to accommodate presenters):**

- Scott McGrath, Streets Department Environmental Services Director, gave a PowerPoint overview (presentation will be included in SWRAC Drop-box folder) of the upcoming Philly Spring Cleanup event (April 12, 2014). Deputy Commissioner Carlton also spoke about the project's history and outcomes. Last year's event featured 13,000 volunteers and it collected more than 1 million tons of trash and litter from about 560 sites.
- Jim Osborn of Alternative Resources, Inc. provided a status update and overview of the Solid Waste Management Plan rewrite process. Mr. Osborn provided copies of current drafts for sections 1 and 2 and discussed requirements laid out in Commonwealth Statute. Discussions ensued on the data shown in the draft plan sections:
  - MSW composition data comparison between U.S. EPA and Streets Department's 2010 residential study (performed by MSW Consultants).
  - There were discussions related to methodology for calculating MSW composition data (EPA vs. city's), as well as updates to be made by the Department.
  - Maurice Sampson and Ben Ditzler raised questions regarding the findings from the 2010 MSW Consultants study, specifically over the opportunity for recycling analysis as detailed in the study, and the high incidence of C&D materials.
  - Mr. Bresee pointed out that a considerable amount of data was shared through a presentation at the November SWRAC meeting.
  - Maurice Sampson suggested and asked for a show of hands relating to establishment of a subcommittee to focus solely on the data and statistics.
- Kyle Lewis, Director of Operations for the Office of the City Representative gave presentation on solid waste management at the 2012 and 2013 Philadelphia Marathons (presentation will be made available through SWRAC's drop-box folder). Eighty-six percent of the 29.3 tons of waste generated at the event was recycled or diverted (74% single-stream recyclables, 12.5% organics; 14% disposed). The event was awarded a 'Gold' designation by the Council for Responsible Sport, a sustainable sporting event certification body. Bresee added the Philadelphia Marathon results place it among the most successful events in the country.

### **Old business:**

- SWRAC subcommittees were discussed with Michelle Feldman indicating interest in heading up a commercial recycling subcommittee. Andrew Dalzell expressed interest in establishing a subcommittee to review public participation and asked for other volunteers. Mr. Dalzell also

requested information from Jim Osborn on the state's requirements for public participation in the solid waste management plan development process.

- Maurice Sampson inquired on the status of the SWRAC chair appointment. He suggested and asked for a show of hands regarding scheduling a meeting the mayor to share their concerns regarding the delays in appointing a chair. Staff indicated they hoped to have the issue resolved by the next SWRAC meeting.

**Announcements:**

Upcoming events include:

- "Red goes Green" Earth Day event at Phillies/Braves game, April 17<sup>th</sup>.
- Frankford Litter Reduction Workshop, April 19<sup>th</sup>
- Urban Tree Connection Event, April 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Meeting was adjourned at approximately 5 p.m. The next meeting will be held April 17<sup>th</sup>, 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,

Conisha Davis (Recording)