



MINUTES
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMISSION
Monday, April 28, 2003
Solid Waste Management Center, 1201 Second Street

Solid Waste Management Division

Chairperson Carrie Sprague called the meeting to order at 7:14 p.m.

1. Roll Call: Commissioners Present: Jon Bauer, James Bianco, Howard Chong, Carrie Sprague
Commissioners Absent: Rachel Balsley, Jay Miyazaki
Commissioner Arriving After Roll Call: Evelyn Giardina (7:35 p.m.)
Staff: Becky Dowdakin (Secretary)
Members of the Public: David Williamson
2. Comments from the Public: None
3. Announcements: None
4. Approval of the Minutes from the February 24, 2003 and March 24, 2003 Meetings: M/S Chong/Bianco to approve minutes of February 24, 2003 as written; approved 5/0/0. The March 24, 2003 meeting notes were not approved; there was not quorum, therefore no meeting.
5. New Business:
 - a. **Discussion of Communication from Commission on Disability**

Dowdakin recapped the email message she had received from the Secretary to the Commission on Disability, which was included in the packet. The concern was that refuse and recycling containers that even partly block the public right-of-way pose a hazard to passersby and especially to those with impaired vision or mobility. Dowdakin noted that the Refuse Supervisors had already discussed the issue with their crews, and that staff would be sure to include the information in printed brochures and newsletters. Dave Williamson, Ecology Center Recycling Operations Manager, also offered to discuss it with his staff and noted that both the employee operations manual and the union contract specify that the recycling workers will not place the emptied recycling containers on the sidewalk. Chong suggested that a form letter be given to customers who put their recycling bins out on the sidewalk, informing them of the problem.
6. Old Business:
 - a. **Discussion and Development of Annual Work Program**

The Commission prepared a "brainstorm" list of topics to include in the Commission's work plan, and requested staff to provide the list at the next Commission meeting.
 - b. **Discussion of Staff Proposal on Refuse Rates**

Dowdakin reviewed the proposed refuse rate tables that were included in the Commission packet. In general, the tables show a 7% increase over current refuse rates. The tables provided to the Commission at the March meeting reflected a 4% rate increase. However, in developing the budget for the entire Refuse Fund, Public Works Administration proposed the larger

increase to cover additional funding of capital improvements, and new expenditures from the Refuse Fund for Green Building and Clean Cities programs.

c. Update for 2003 Cleanup and Staff Proposal for Restructure in 2004

Dowdakin announced that the 2003 Annual Cleanup was scheduled to proceed beginning May 30 in the UC campus area, and that the service would be the same as last year. The City Manager has indicated support for making a transition to an appointment-based system in 2004, provided staff engages in sufficient planning, education and outreach, and needs assessment to create a smooth transition for the community.

d. Discussion of Solid Waste and Recycling Services to Multi-Family Residences

Chong summarized a memo he provided to the Commission regarding a strategy for promoting recycling in multifamily apartment buildings.

e. Staff Update and Discussion of Proposed Project at 711 Harrison Street

Dowdakin announced that an Administrative Draft EIR had circulated on the Ursula Sherman Village project proposed for 711 Harrison Street, and that staff expected to publish a Draft EIR for public review shortly.

7. Staff Updates: Council has authorized a contract with Valentine for the **Plant Debris Expansion Area** and staff has issued a notice to proceed; excavation of the pit should begin within the next two weeks. Staff is working on an **Update of Commissioner's Manual**, which will be circulated to all the City Boards and Commissions for comment in the coming months. The latest research on **Sudden Oak Death** confirms that processing of affected organic materials through a well-managed compost facility should destroy the pathogen; it appears that state regulators will consider this information in developing controls for transportation of potentially affected materials.
8. Future Agenda Items and Meeting Days: The next meeting will be June 23, 2003 at 7:00 p.m.
9. Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 9:34 p.m.