



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
Solid Waste Management Division

MINUTES
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMISSION
Monday, June 28, 2004
Solid Waste Management Center, 1201 Second Street

Vice-Chairperson Peter Schultze-Allen called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

1. Roll Call:

Commissioners Present: Steen Jensen, Jay Miyazaki, Peter Schultze-Allen, Carrie Sprague

Commissioner Absent: Genevieve Dreyfus, Susan Blachman

Commissioners Arriving After Roll Call: Howard Chong (7:45 p.m.)

Staff: Tom Farrell, Tania Levy

Members of the Public: Sara MacKusick

2. Comments from the Public: None

3. Announcements: Chong provided a letter he had written to the City Council opposing a merger of the Solid Waste and Public Works commissions (when he arrived at 7:45). The letter represented his opinions and not those of the Commission.

4. Approval of the Minutes from the May 26, 2004 Meeting: M/S Sprague/Jensen to approve the minutes of May 26, 2004; approved 5/0/0.

5. Approval of Agenda: The Commission adopted the agenda as written.

6. New Business:

a. **Meeting Times:**

Defer this item to the next meeting because Susan Blachman, who requested the topic, is absent. Commissioners observed that most commissions start their meetings at 7 pm or earlier, and that a 7:30 start time would result in too late an ending time.

b. **Implementation of Work Plan Items – budget**

Farrell provided a budget status report showing expenses through April 2004, and noted that some FY 04 expenditures were not yet listed. He offered to provide a quarterly budget summary showing expenditures and changes in plans.

c. **Municipal Code Review**

Topic was deferred to the July meeting.

Chong arrived at 7:45.

7. Old Business:

a. **Staff Presentation on SWMP Public Workshop Schedule & Outreach**

Levy stated that the first meeting addressing commercial refuse and recycling issues would be held at Northbrae Community Church. Several commissioners expressed a preference for a meeting place in downtown Berkeley, and suggested City Hall and the

Conference Center as options. They wanted widespread public notification, including neighborhood groups and commercial associations. Bill inserts were discussed and ruled out. Chong requested mailings to interested persons whose names he will provide.

8. Staff Updates: Levy and Farrell updated the Commission on the outcomes of the first six **Bulky Cleanups in May and June 2004**. Participation is ranging between 70 and 94 households/week, which on an annual basis would be 25 percent participation. Sprague inquired about cost-effectiveness; staff responded that the costs per pickup and per ton are higher so far, but the service is becoming more efficient with experience. Chong expressed concern that program is inconvenient for tenants because the landlord must call. The Commission suggested forming a focus group, collecting tires, charging a fee for some items, and providing recycling as well as trash containers to neighborhood watch groups for cleanup. Farrell reported no change in the **Plant Debris Project**. The Department of Conservation approved City request to extend the **Restaurant Grant** through December 2004. The grant funds a field representative to help minority restaurants recycle bottles and cans. Implementation of **SB 20**, which supports recycling of TVs and computer monitors, was postponed, probably to October 1, 2004. Corrective legislation is still in flux. Under this program retailers provide \$8 per TV or monitor sold to a recycling fund. Berkeley joined many cities opposing **AB2290**, which would have exempted haulers from paying franchise fees on their revenues from collecting refuse from State facilities and schools. Berkeley would not lose revenue if the legislation was enacted, but many cities would. Although it had little opposition before, the bill failed passage in the Senate Energy and Resources Committee.
9. Future Agenda Items and Meeting Days: The next meeting is July 26, 2004. The agenda will include Municipal Code Review (Sections 12.32 and 12.34); discussion of Commission meeting start time; the baseline program report for the Solid Waste Management Plan, and preparation for the first public workshop.
10. Adjourn: M/S Sprague/Jensen adjourn at 8:55 p.m. Approved 6/0/0.