



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS  
Solid Waste Management Division

**MINUTES**  
**SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMISSION**  
**Monday, January 23, 2006**  
**North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst Street**

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

1. Roll Call:

**Commissioners present:** Susan Blachman (left 8:00), Asa Dodsworth (7:15 arrival), Steen Jensen, Jay Miyazaki, Peter Schultze-Allen, Carrie Sprague, David Tam (8:00 arrival)

**Commissioners absent:** none

**Staff:** Peter Holtzclaw, Tania Levy, Claudette Ford,

**Members of the Public:** Jeff Belchamber and Sara MacKusick of Community Conservation Center (CCC); Martin Bourque, Mark Gorrell, and Daniel Maher, Ecology Center; Dan Knapp and Mary Lou Van Deventer of Urban Ore

2. Comments

Comments from the Public:

- Knapp mentioned that Urban Ore is embarking on designing a site plan for the City's Solid Waste facilities at 2<sup>nd</sup> and Gilman. UO is also working with visitors from the UK in designing a Zero Waste facility for their community. Also announced that Weyerhaeuser has announced the closing of numerous fiber-producing mills that use recycled paper.
- Van Deventer mentioned Justin Lehrer from Stop Waste has finished his analysis of recycling-based businesses and their struggle to secure land in the Bay Area. An industrial land-use planning meeting 1/31 will address this topic.
- Bourke reminded everyone of the 1/20 meeting of Zero Waste communities in Oakland (includes activists and staff from Santa Cruz, Berkeley, Oakland, San Francisco and Solano County)

Comments from Commissioners: None.

3. Announcements

- Ecology Center has its Annual Membership meeting 1/25 at 7 pm.

4. Approval of the Meeting Minutes from October 24, 2005: M/S Sprague/Blachman to approve the minutes of October 24, 2005 as written, with another reminder to use Jensen instead of Steen. Approved 7/0/0.

5. Approval of Agenda: M/S Sprague/Blachman to approve the agenda, noting to change date to 1/23. Approved 7/0/0.

6. Old Business

a. SWMP Update

Holtzclaw reported that Tuesday 1/24 at 5 pm there would be an Information Report to City Council on the SWMP Update. MacKusick presented comments from Berkeley Recycling Group (BRG) responding to various issues raised in the Update, such as single-stream and dual-stream recycling and the concern over phasing in site rebuilding efforts. Holtzclaw will update the Commission in February on the implementation process moving forward.

b. Change Commission Name to Zero Waste Commission

The Commission will be known as the Zero Waste Commission, if Council passes the Name Change Resolution on 1/24.

7. New Business

a. Budget/Fees

A general discussion ensued regarding the fluid state of the refuse fund. Ford stated nothing has been finalized and the City was looking at raising transfer station rates mid-year to cover some shortfalls. Holtzclaw will bring the proposed rates to the February meeting. Levy and Holtzclaw both gave general descriptions of franchising and solid waste operations in the City vis-à-vis the budget. Knapp stated that more and more contractors are using his company due to various construction and demolition ordinances.

b. Elections

Schultze-Allen opened a general discussion of Commission elections, to be held in February. He wants to step down as the Commission's Chair. Jensen is currently Vice-Chair. Commissioners will come prepared to nominate and elect at the February 27 meeting.

8. Staff Reports:

- BUSD: Levy briefly presented how the City is saving the School District about \$23,000 per quarter due to recycling efforts.
- Apartment Survey: Holtzclaw and Bourke presented a new survey from the Ecology Center aimed at increasing diversion from 4-9 unit buildings. Results will help Ecology Center decide whether to offer cart-recycling service to such buildings in the future.
- Tam wants staff to find out if the City is on the County's Ad Hoc Committee on raising diversion levels from 65% to 75%.

9. Future Agenda Items and Meeting Dates:

- Justin Lehrer presentation
- Commission Elections
- Transfer station rate change and Budget
- Quarterly Reports from contractors
- Recap of 1/24 Report to Council on Solid Waste Plan
- Beyond February: Permaculture and General Solid Waste Rates

10. Adjourn: M/S Sprague/Tam to adjourn at 9:05 p.m. Carried 7/0/0