



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
Solid Waste Management Division

MINUTES
ZERO WASTE COMMISSION
Monday, November 27, 2006
North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst Street

Chairman Steen Jensen called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

1. Roll Call:

Commissioners present: Blachman, Dodsworth (7:15), Jensen, Kalil, Sadigh, Schultze-Allen (7:30), Tam

Commissioners absent: Miyazaki

Staff: Peter Holtzclaw; Tania Levy

Members of the Public: Daniel Maher of Ecology Center; Dan Knapp, Joe Werth and Mary Lou Van Deventer of Urban Ore; Sara MacKusick of Community Conservation Centers, Dr. Joel Kreisberg of Teleosis Institute, and residents Vi Peters and Sara Mc Caleb.

2. Comments from the Public: Dan Knapp reported that Urban Ore had upgraded their security system after a burglary, and that the high price of copper was motivating theft of wire and other non-ferrous metal. Their new truck will run on biodiesel from Biofuels Oasis.
3. Announcements and Commissioner Comments: Staff announced the next Zero Waste Communities meeting would be held in San Francisco on December 7. Dodsworth commented that the Commission should regularly send out press releases.
4. Approval of the Meeting Minutes from October 23, 2006: M/S Tam Kalil to approve the minutes after correcting Kalil's comments about the rebuild and rate structure RFPs. Approved, 7/0/0.
5. Approval of Agenda: M/S Kalil/Sadigh to approve agenda, 7/0/0.
6. Presentation by Dr. Joel Kreisberg: Teleosis Institute promotes environmentally sustainable health care, and is addressing the problem of pharmaceutical waste. Medical residue is found in water due to excretion and to disposal of outdated drugs. Take-back events are expensive but would be feasible if healthcare industry were routinely involved. Teleosis submitted a grant application to ACWMA to operate a pilot take-back program at 20 locations such as pharmacies, medical and dental offices, public clinics and long term care facilities. The grant funding would support containers, public education and pay a local firm to collect weekly from the drop-off sites. The Solid Waste Division sent a letter of support. Commissioners expressed support, but Dr. Kreisberg does

not need a resolution from the Commission at this time.

7. Budget Process: Lisa Malek-Zadeh, Senior Budget Analyst from the Department of Public Works, provided handouts describing the FY 08 and 09 biennial budget development process, with the Council Timeline and the Public Works Department's budget calendar. In December the Division will review current and proposed programs and staffing. The Department will finalize the first draft to submit to the City Manager at the end of January and meet with the City Manager in February and March. The Refuse fund is not projecting a deficit, so there is no request to reduce programs. Worker's compensation rates dropped significantly, while medical and PERS rates increased. Holtzclaw reported that weekly food scraps collection is already funded, but other new expenditures need approval from Council. The Commission can comment meaningfully in January.
8. Old Business
 - a. Report from Zero Waste Subcommittee: Kalil reported that members of the Energy Commission and Z.A.B attended the October meeting. The Energy Commission can contribute useful policy guidance re energy credits and the relationship to Community Choice Aggregation. ZAB relates to the project impacts, and how the facility fits in the West Berkeley plan. ZW subcommittee members may want to attend meetings of other commissions.
 - b. Status of 75% Diversion Plan: Jensen asked how the Bighorn review changes the presentation date, and voiced concern at delay of Primer presentation since Spring of 2006. Is it still possible to reach 75% by 2010? Holtzclaw responded that planning is now synchronized with the two-year budget cycle and the new Council makeup. The key elements of Construction recycling, weekly plant debris and residential carts will be implemented in time. Presentation to Council in February or March. Commissioners discussed projected cost of the rebuild, and need to fund study to determine costs. Projection is a range - Holtzclaw is investigating sending construction debris off - site for sorting, which will reduce cost. . Other firms are interested in receiving and sorting construction debris off site. Knapp commented that the "Urban Ore" plan appears to be less expensive than the \$30 million projected.
 - c. Status of Regional Composting Facility: Tam reported that 8 proponents are expected to present their proposals to the ACWMA in January, including a promising proposal from the East Bay Municipal Utility District.
9. Quarterly Report from Contractors:
 - a. CCC distributed their report. Tons have been stagnant or decreasing slightly for two years - possibly due to lack of public education, and of course, poaching. Schultze-Allen requested a longer - term graph. CCC's prices are competitive but they pay by check, so poachers take Berkeley

material to Oakland locations that pay cash. Contamination in commercial recyclables is approximately 2%.

- b. Ecology Center reported that City police are stopping vehicles carrying recyclables. Maher hopes replacing bins with cart service will discourage poaching and increase capture of recyclables. EC met with Marin Sanitary to discuss the trucks and split carts they use. Proposed EC diesel vehicles will have particulate filters, run cleaner, and be warranted for biodiesel. Trucks may take 6 months to deliver.

10. Staff Reports: Levy reviewed the quarterly tonnage reports. Staff is working with large property owners, in preparation for promoting recycling at multi-family buildings, and multi-tenant commercial buildings. Commissioners would like more education to multi-family residents about holiday tree collection and VanDeventer suggested ads in the Daily Cal.

11. Future Agenda Items:

- a. January: budget review
- b. Sustainability principles, or Urban Ore presentation
- c. Education plan

12. Adjourn: M/S Jensen/Dodsworth to adjourn at 9:25.