



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
Solid Waste Management Division

MINUTES
ZERO WASTE COMMISSION
Monday, July 26, 2010
North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst Street
Workshop Room B, 1st floor

Chair David Tam called the meeting to order with a quorum at 7:07 PM

1. Roll Call

Commissioners present: Bartlett, Jensen, Kalil, Moos, Tam, Blachman (7:12), Gomez (7:25).

Commissioners absent: Kirkpatrick (excused)

Staff: Ken Etherington - Division Manager; Tania Levy – Associate Analyst.

Members of the Public: Martin Bourque of the Ecology Center (EC); Jeff Belchamber of Community Conservation Center (CCC).

2. Approve Agenda: M/S/C Kalil/Jensen to approve the agenda, 5/0/0

3. Comments from the Public: Belchamber reported that CCC is limiting the amount of batteries and florescent lamps they will accept free from Berkeley residents and small businesses and will charge for higher quantities. Limits and prices will be on their website.

4. Announcements and Commissioner Comments: Tam reported on AB 1998 (Brownlee on single use bags) and other producer responsibility legislation. AB 1998 is moving forward and the Governor has said he will sign it. Kalil suggested that staff learn what bills the City's lobbyist is working on.

5. Approve Meeting Minutes of June 28, 2010: M/S/C Jensen/Kalil to approve minutes as amended, 7/0/0

6. Subcommittee Reports

Poaching: Bartlett described the proposed strategy. The strategy will be refined at a stakeholder meeting on August 5th. It will be on the Council agenda September 21.

M/S/C Tam/Kalil, 7/0/0 to authorize the Poaching Subcommittee to speak for the full Commission with respect to the staff report on Poaching, and to support the enforcement strategy if it is consistent with the policy expressed in the Commission's resolution of May 24, 2010. A special Commission meeting will be called in August if necessary.

Facilities and Programs: Jensen reported that the subcommittee will meet to set priorities, and to provide citizen input to the Assessment study. Members will be Jensen, Kalil, Moos, and Tam. Tam asked staff to consider adding Street Sweeping to the functions that the Zero Waste Commission reviews, because it is supported by the Refuse Fund.

Budget: No report

7. Division Update:

Diversion fee: Etherington reported that on June 29, Council agreed to charge \$3.35/month to each household and each commercial property, effective July 1, 2010. The surcharge will sunset upon adoption of a sustainable rate structure.

Residential Recycling Cart Program: Etherington reported that carts have been ordered from the vendor. In single family and duplex properties, each unit will receive a split cart. Buildings with 3-5 units will receive one 64-gallon cart for bottles/cans and one for papers, while 6-9 unit buildings will have 96-gallon carts. Carts will have blue lids for bottles/cans and brown lids for papers. On June 29, Council approved a contract amendment with Ecology Center for public education and other roll-out tasks. Bourque described the public information program. Moos inquired about multi-lingual material. Bourque responded that they use pictures to make the instructions self-explanatory. Cart delivery is expected to begin October 11. The distributor will collect and recycle the old blue recycling boxes if the resident has set them out.

Report on FY 2010 Disposal and Diversion tons: Levy reported that landfilled tons from the transfer station dropped from 68,400 tons in FY 2009 to 63,100 tons in FY 09-10 out of total incoming tons both years of 111,000. The change is attributed to diversion of more tons of organics.

Status of Contracts: The contract with Recology/Grover to haul and compost the City's organic materials is circulating for signature. The starting cost is \$3/ton less than the previous contract. A group headed by Sloan-Vasquez was chosen for the Division Operational Assessment project. Tam represented the Commission on the interview panel. Staff reported that the new rate structure is not part of the scope, but the efficiency recommendations and cost of operations can be used in establishing a new fee structure. Public outreach is necessary to an efficient operation and will be considered in these costs.

8. Future agenda items: The September 27 meeting will include Contractor quarterly reports, status of the poaching enforcement plan, multi-family and commercial recycling update, and the revised construction/demolition ordinance. Future topics include incentives for zero waste, the Extended Producer Responsibility resolution and recycling more plastics. A special meeting may be called in August to review the Poaching enforcement plan prior to Council action.

9. Adjourn: The Commission adjourned at 9:00 PM in honor of Mark Gorell, with best wishes that he makes a strong recovery. **M/S/C Jensen/Moos, 7/0/0**