



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
Solid Waste Management Division

MINUTES
ZERO WASTE COMMISSION
Monday, August 22, 2011
North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst Street
Workshop Room B, 1st floor

Chair Kalil called the meeting to order with a quorum at 7:11 PM

1. Roll Call:

Commissioners present: Kalil, Kirkpatrick, Halperin, Bartlett, Schultze-Allen, Saborio

Commissioners absent: Jensen (excused), Tam (excused), Blachman (excused)

Staff: Ken Etherington - Solid Waste Division Manager, Andy Schneider – Recycling Program Manager

Members of the Public: Daniel Maher of the Ecology Center (EC); Jeff Belchamber of Community Conservation Center (CCC); Dan Knapp of Urban Ore; Tania Levy, Abey Halperin

2. Approve Agenda: M/S/C Kirkpatrick/Schultze-Allen to approve the agenda 6/0/0

3. Comments from the Public: Dan Knapp announced that Urban Ore has been working on a redesign of the Burbank Transfer Station with 3 design options. Tania Levy reported on her Proposition 218 presentation at CRRA and a Zero Waste forum she attended in Humboldt County. She will present a summary at the September 26 Commission meeting.

4. Announcements and Commissioner Comments: Kalil reported on changes in the U.S. lumber mill industry and outsourcing of resources and jobs to China. Bartlett announced that he has started law school at Golden Gate as an environmental law scholar. He inquired if plastic bag bans will change paper bag recycling rates. Tania Levy responded that she expects paper bag use to decrease. Kalil reported that Manhattan Beach's plastic bag lawsuit was settled, but may not set a precedent for larger cities.

5. Approve Meeting Minutes of June 27, 2011: Halperin requested copies of the Ecology Center and CCC quarterly reports which were presented in June. **M/S/C Saborio/Bartlett to approve the June 27, 2011 minutes 6/0/0**

6. Sustainable Rate Task Force Update: Kalil presented a PowerPoint presentation on the sustainable rate setting process and progress of the Rate Subcommittee. She covered comparable rate structures, cost models and rate setting under Proposition 218 and 26. The presentation will be available on the Zero Waste Commission website. A meeting with the City Attorney will be held to discuss the options moving forward towards creating a fiscally sound zero waste rate structure. The Chair will present on the meeting with the City Attorney at the September Commission meeting.

7. Division Update:

Multi-family Recycling: Schneider reported on the expected state and county mandatory recycling requirements and how they will affect Multi-family properties. A distinction was made between requiring that recycling service is available - as in the pending State legislation, and that all generators participate in the provided diversion services - as in the proposed County ordinance. Providing outreach to property owners for voluntary set-up and improvement is being considered in preparation for mandatory requirements. Our goal is to address underserved Multi-family properties and be sure that we are promoting diversion while covering our cost of service. Kalil suggested a Multi-family workshop to discuss ideas and options. Staffing options for on-site assistance were discussed to address the 700 properties in the City with ten or more units. Organics service, promoting food waste participation and multi-lingual outreach were also discussed.

RFP Review: Schneider reported on the landfill and C&D RFP process status. Etherington described the bids received and the discounted pricing provided from the two companies that bids for both contracts. Staff recommendations will be shared at the September meeting and will be heard at Council in October.

8. Future Agenda Items and Meeting Dates: RFP Review and StopWaste EIR review for mandatory and plastic bag ban and policy options for the City. It was suggested that Gary Wolff from StopWaste.org present to Council on the EIR and City options. Tania Levy will present on her Proposition 218 presentation at CRRA.

9. Adjourn: M/S/C Schultze-Allen/Kirkpatrick to adjourn at 9:05 5/0/0