



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
Zero Waste Division

MINUTES
ZERO WASTE COMMISSION
Tuesday, May 21, 2013
City of Berkeley Corporation Yard - 1326 Allston Way
Ratcliff Building, Willow Room

Chair Halperin called the meeting to order with a quorum at 7:08 PM

1. Roll Call:

Commissioners present: Halperin, Kalil, Wenning, Twu, Davis, Schultze-Allen (7:15)

Commissioners absent: None

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

Members of the Public: Martin Bourque of Ecology Center; Jeff Belchamber of Community Conservation Center; Miguel Martinez

2. Approve Agenda:

M/S/C Kalil/Wenning to approve agenda 5/0/0

3. Comments from the Public: None

4. Announcements and Commissioner Comments: Kalil reported that the RFP for the Rate Study has been issued. Proposals will be reviewed and the recommendation will be heard at the July 16th Council meeting. The process and goals of this important project will be discussed at the June Commission meeting. Twu reported that the lack of plastic bags due to the bag ban has resulted in better waste sorting and that he is observing less poaching activity. Kalil asked for an update on the Anti-Poaching Policy and police reporting. Bourque reported that the Bearly Used program for Cal Move-Out was not planning activity this year and options for the future were briefly discussed. Current state legislation, and the process of City support of bills, was discussed.

5. Approve Meeting Minutes of April 22, 2013: Kalil asked that more details be provided on the plastics program in section 6. Add: “Plastics program roll-out will include Ecology Center mailing and website updates in June, with cart relabeling occurring in July.”

M/S/C Schultze-Allen/Kalil to approve amended April 22, 2013 minutes 6/0/0

6. BUSD Priority Partner Update: Schneider reported on his work with BUSD schools and encouraging the School Board to adopt the Priority Partner Resolution proposed by StopWaste. While a letter of Commission support was proposed, it would not be approved in time for the School Board decision on June 12th.

Earth Day Holiday Recommendation: Consideration of making Earth Day a city holiday was proposed at the April meeting. This holiday recommendation will be considered at a future meeting. Martin Bourque gave background on the origin of Earth Day and how it has evolved in Berkeley. The Commission discussed how the City and our partners might organize a reinvented,

multi-department, multi-organization Earth Day event in the future and a joint resolution being considered with CEAC.

7. Division Update:

Plastics Program: Schneider reported on the current processing & marketing issues for the new plastic container recycling program. Staff is still hopeful that a local plastics processor is retrofitted for production in order to handle some of the Bay Area's plastic volume. Martin Bourque gave an overview of the plastics postcard messaging due to be mailed in June.

Mandatory Commercial Recycling Phase II: Schneider gave an overview of the requirements of the Mandatory Recycling Ordinance as Phase II is scheduled to occur in July of 2014. Requiring every business and multi-family to recycle & compost has impacts in regard to cart storage, collection fleet, and public outreach & assistance. The Commission discussed how program needs and staffing can be covered in the rate structure.

9. Future Agenda Items: Needs for meeting our Zero Waste goals, Legislation, Rate Study, Foodware Ordinance, UC presentation.

10. Adjourn: M/S/C Schultze-Allen/Kalil to adjourn at 9:00 6/0/0